恋せよまやかし天使ども

卯月ココ

COCO UZUKI
PRESENTS

1

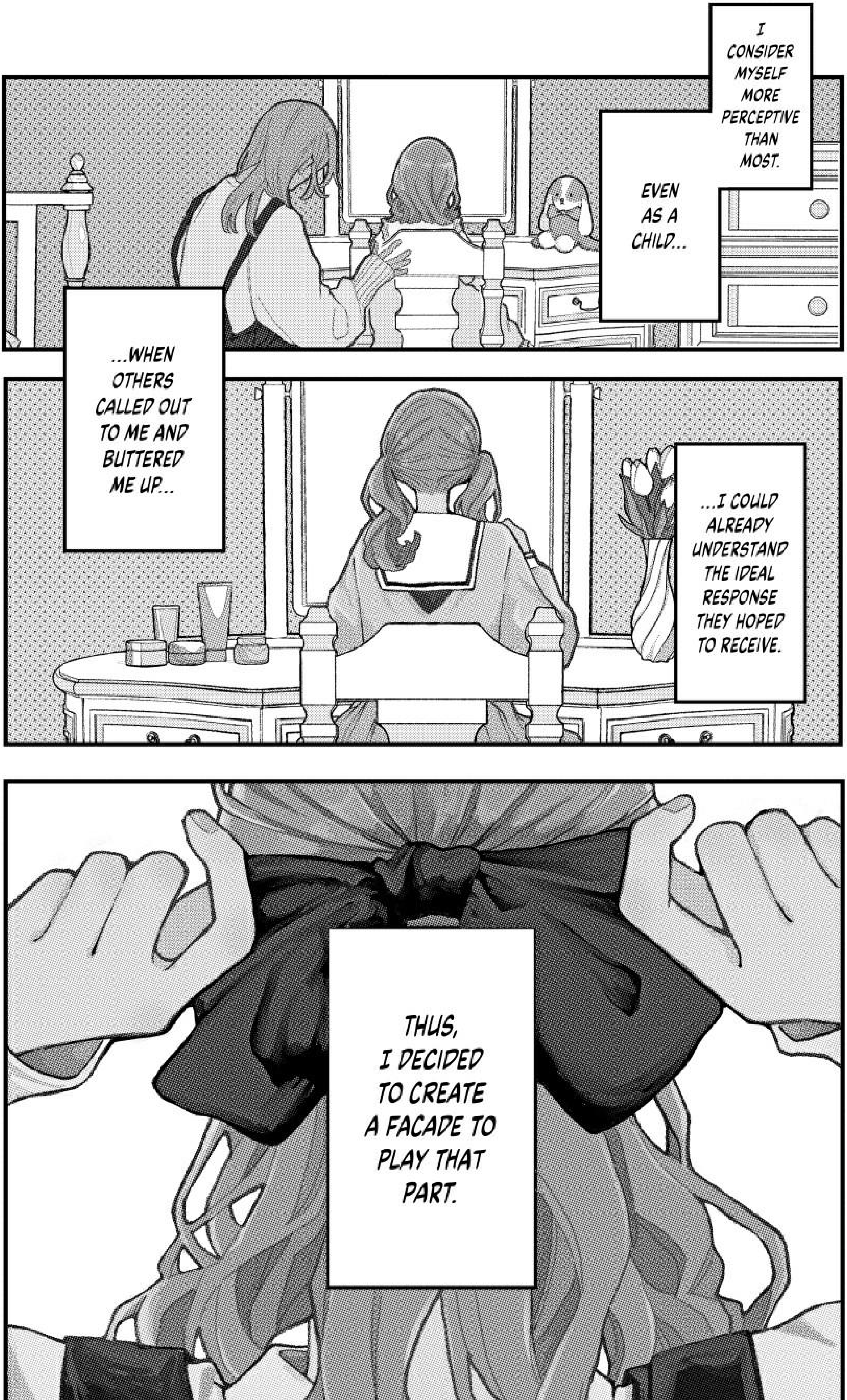
FALL IN LOVE, YOU FALSE ANGELS

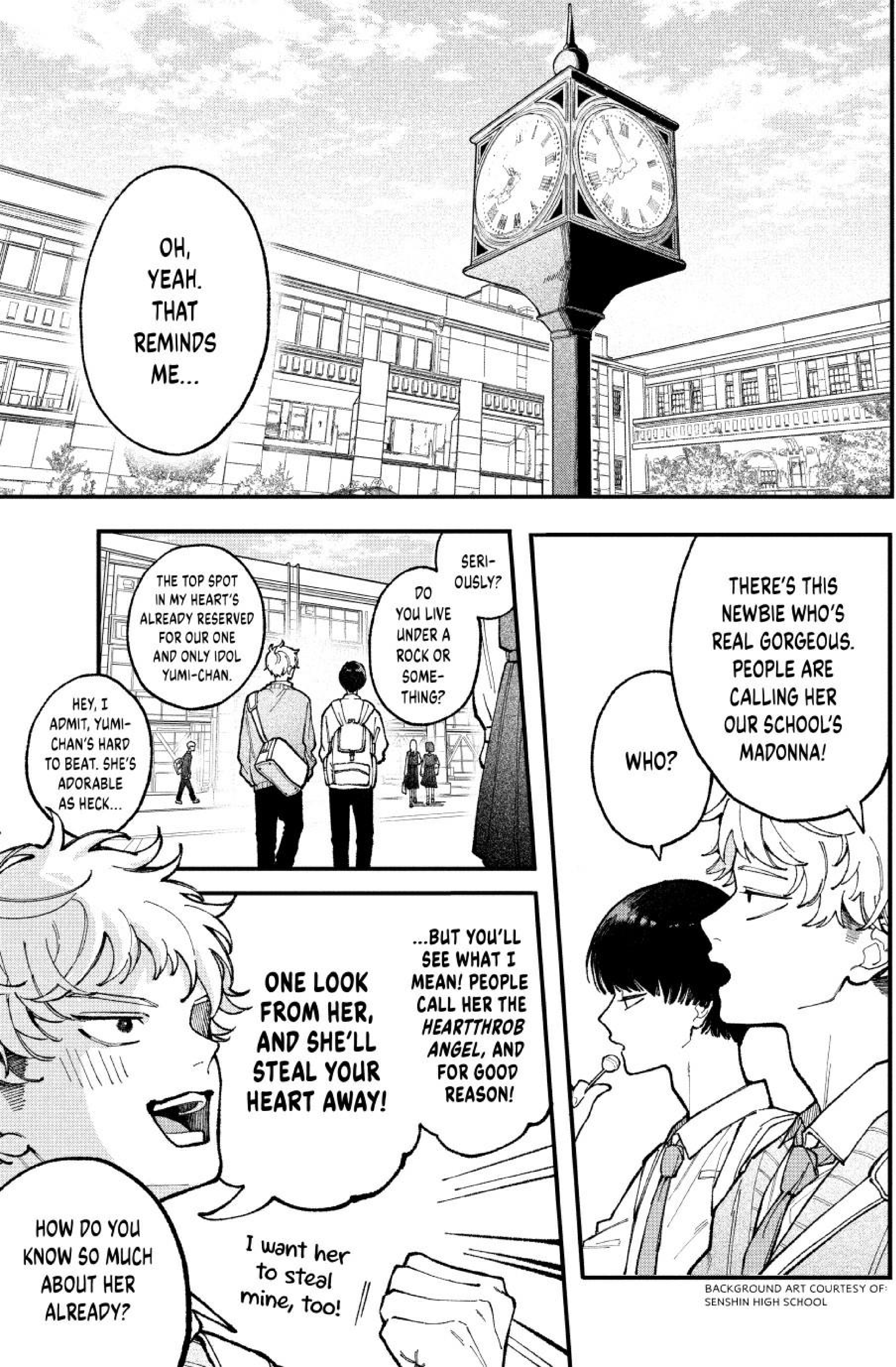
KC DESSERT

EP. 1

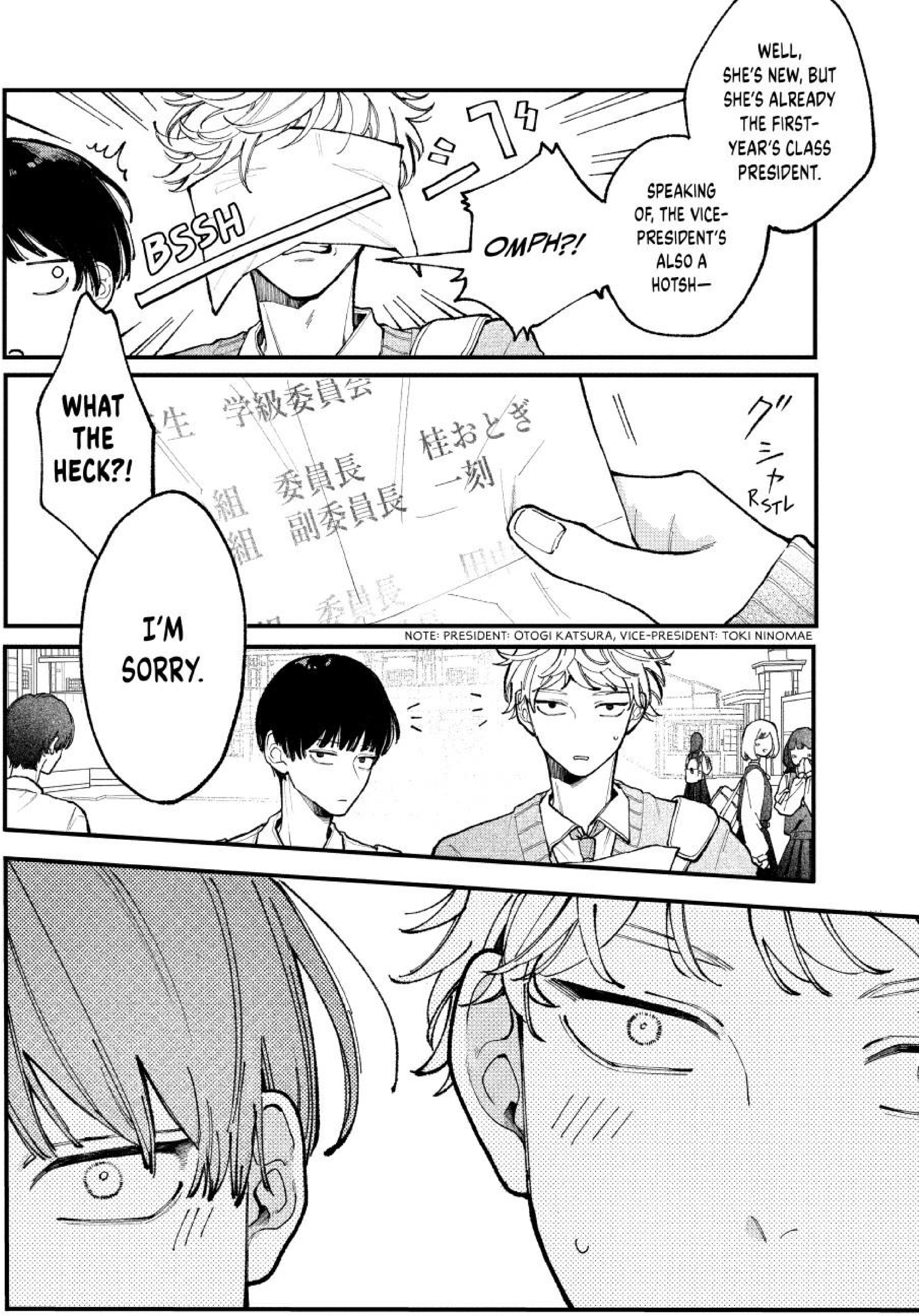
The School Madonna

FALL IN LOVE, YOU FALSE ANGELS

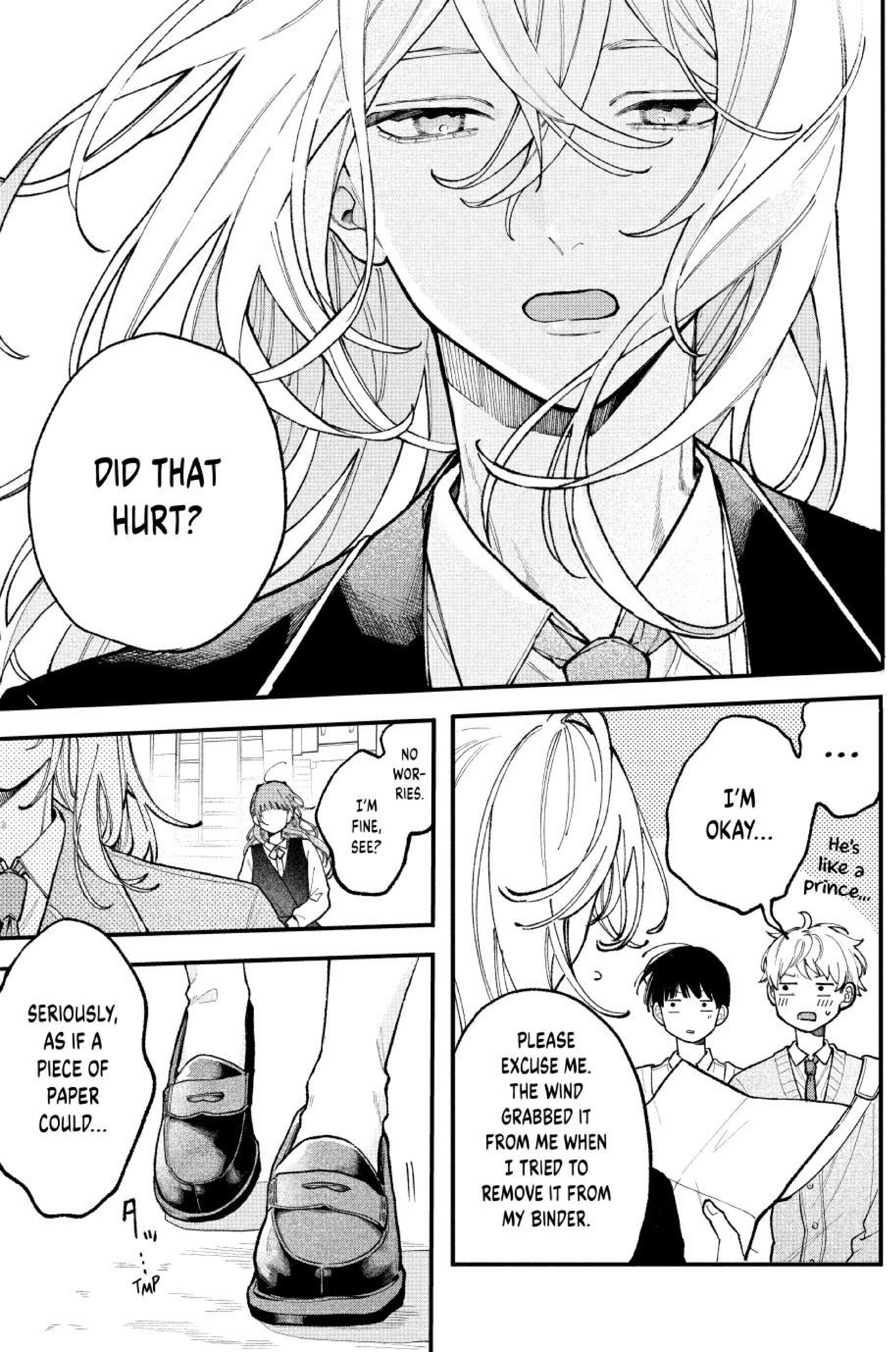

I CONSIDER MYSELF MORE PERCEPTIVE THAN MOST.
EVEN AS A CHILD...
...WHEN OTHERS CALLED OUT TO ME AND BUTTERED ME UP...
...I COULD ALREADY UNDERSTAND THE IDEAL RESPONSE THEY HOPED TO RECEIVE.
THUS, I DECIDED TO CREATE A FACADE TO PLAY THAT PART.

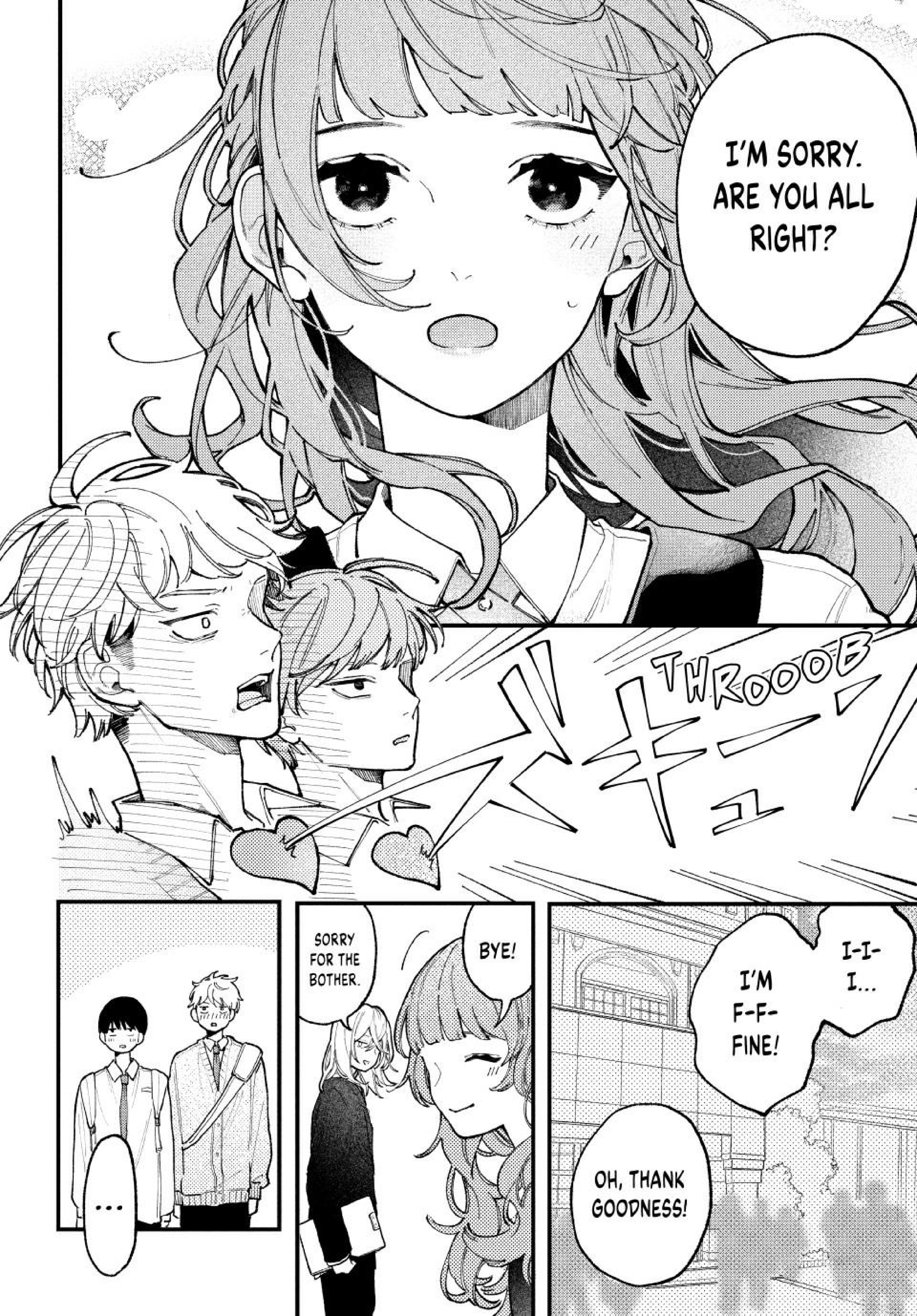

OH, YEAH. THAT REMINDS ME...
THERE'S THIS NEWBIE WHO'S REAL GORGEOUS. PEOPLE ARE CALLING HER OUR SCHOOL'S MADONNA!
WHO?
SERIOUSLY?
DO YOU LIVE UNDER A ROCK OR SOMETHING?
THE TOP SPOT IN MY HEART'S ALREADY RESERVED FOR OUR ONE AND ONLY IDOL YUMI-CHAN.
HEY, I ADMIT, YUMI-CHAN'S HARD TO BEAT. SHE'S ADORABLE AS HECK...
...BUT YOU'LL SEE WHAT I MEAN! PEOPLE CALL HER THE *HEARTTHROB ANGEL*, AND FOR GOOD REASON!
ONE LOOK FROM HER, AND SHE'LL STEAL YOUR HEART AWAY!
I want her to steal mine, too!
HOW DO YOU KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT HER ALREADY?

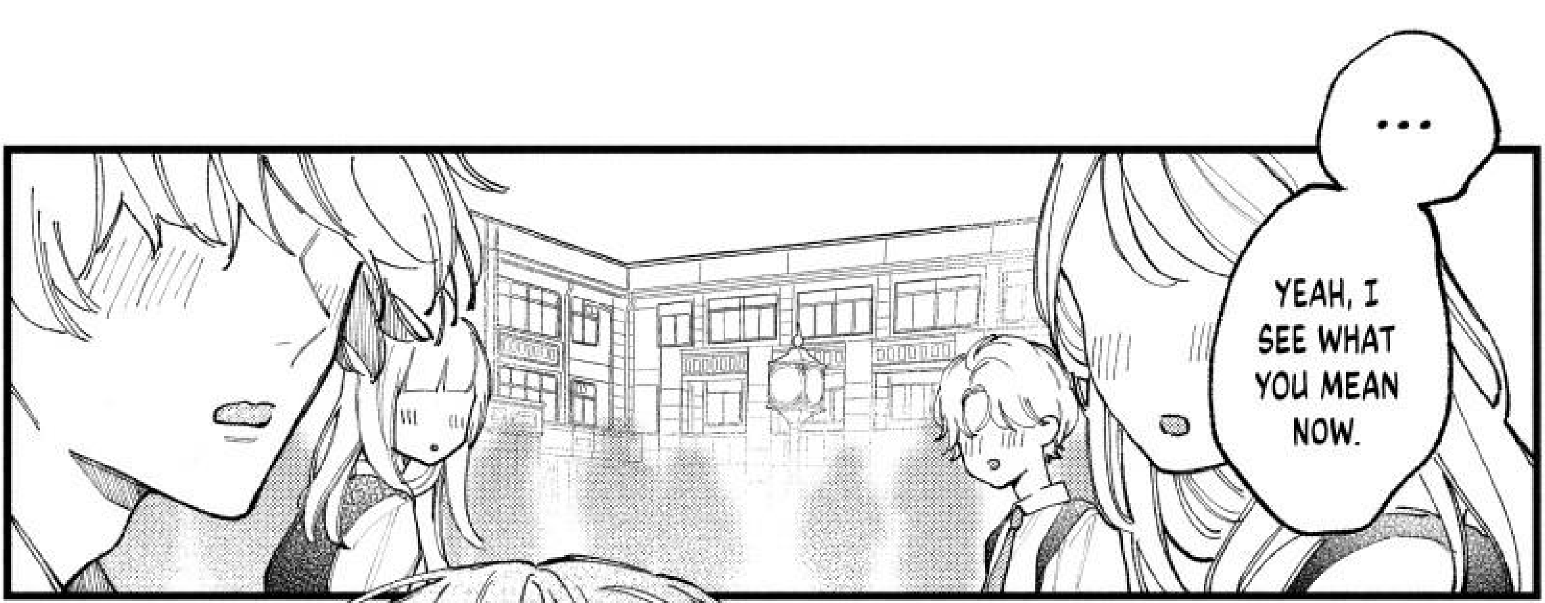
BACKGROUND ART COURTESY OF:
SENSHIN HIGH SCHOOL

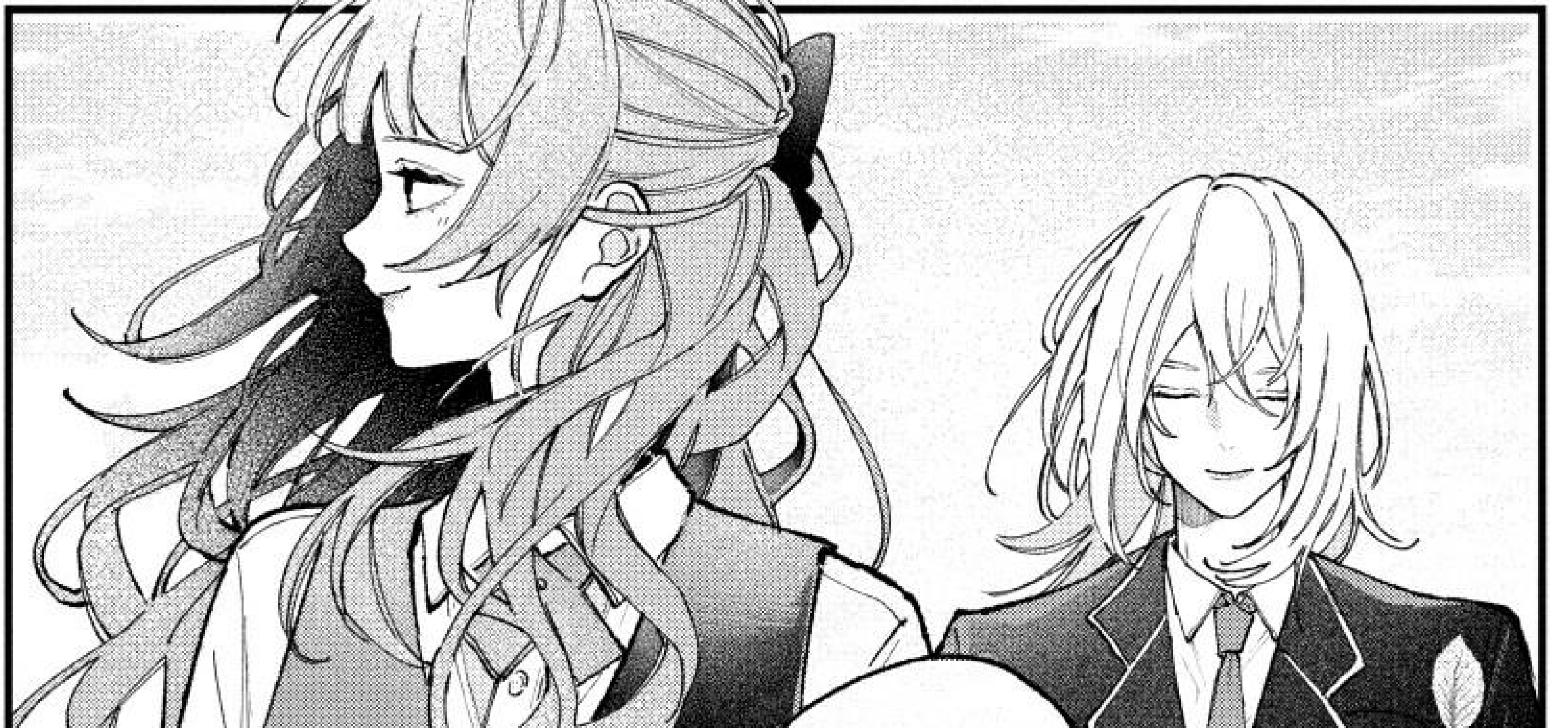

WELL, SHE'S NEW, BUT SHE'S ALREADY THE FIRST-YEAR'S CLASS PRESIDENT.
SPEAKING OF, THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S ALSO A HOTSH—
OMPH?!
BSSH
WHAT THE HECK?!
グシャ
RSTL
生　学級委員会
組　委員長　桂おとぎ
組　副委員長　一刻
I'M SORRY.

NOTE: PRESIDENT: OTOGI KATSURA, VICE-PRESIDENT: TOKI NINOMAE

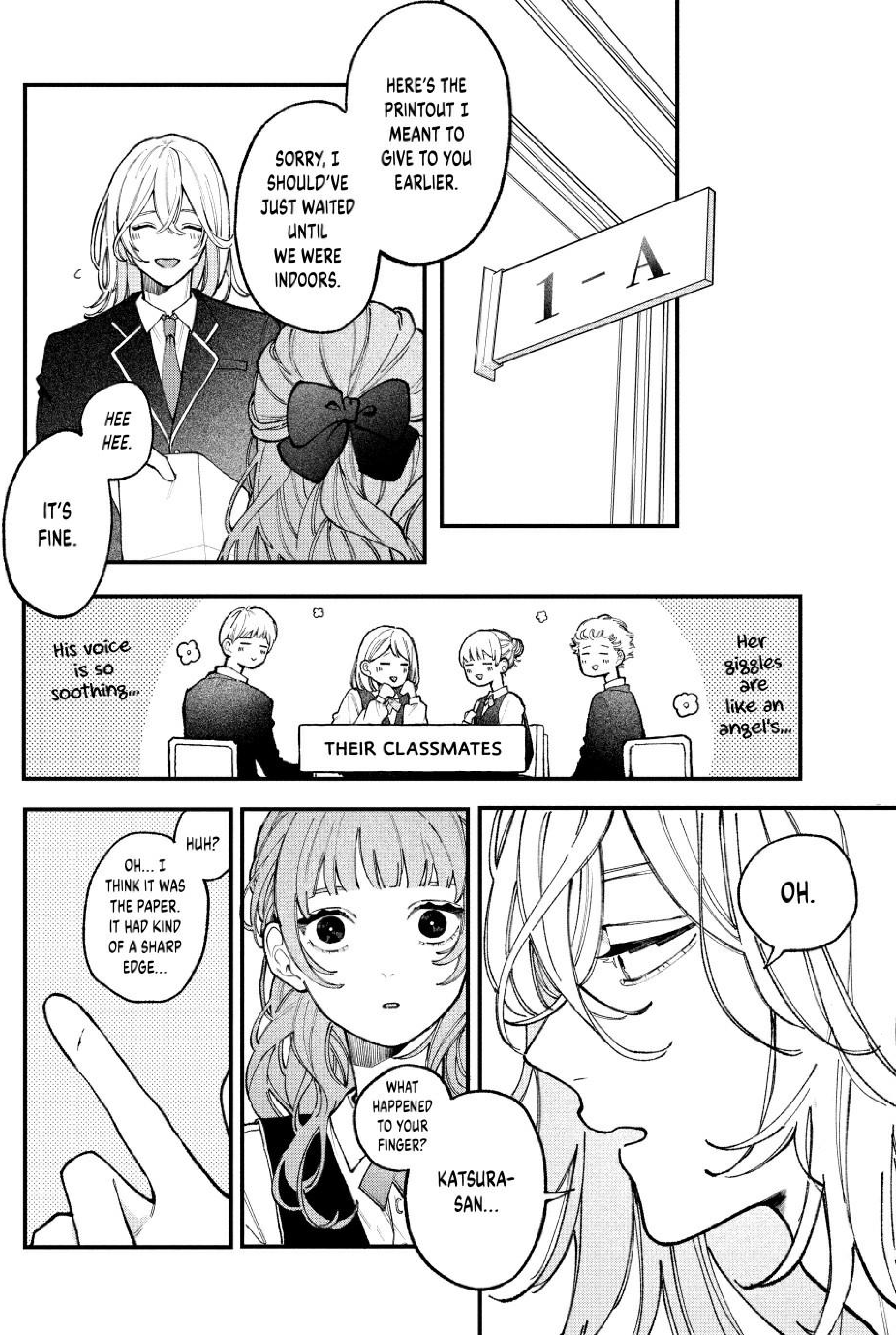

DID THAT HURT?
...
I'M OKAY...
He's like a prince...
PLEASE EXCUSE ME. THE WIND GRABBED IT FROM ME WHEN I TRIED TO REMOVE IT FROM MY BINDER.
NO WORRIES.
I'M FINE, SEE?
SERIOUSLY, AS IF A PIECE OF PAPER COULD...
TMP

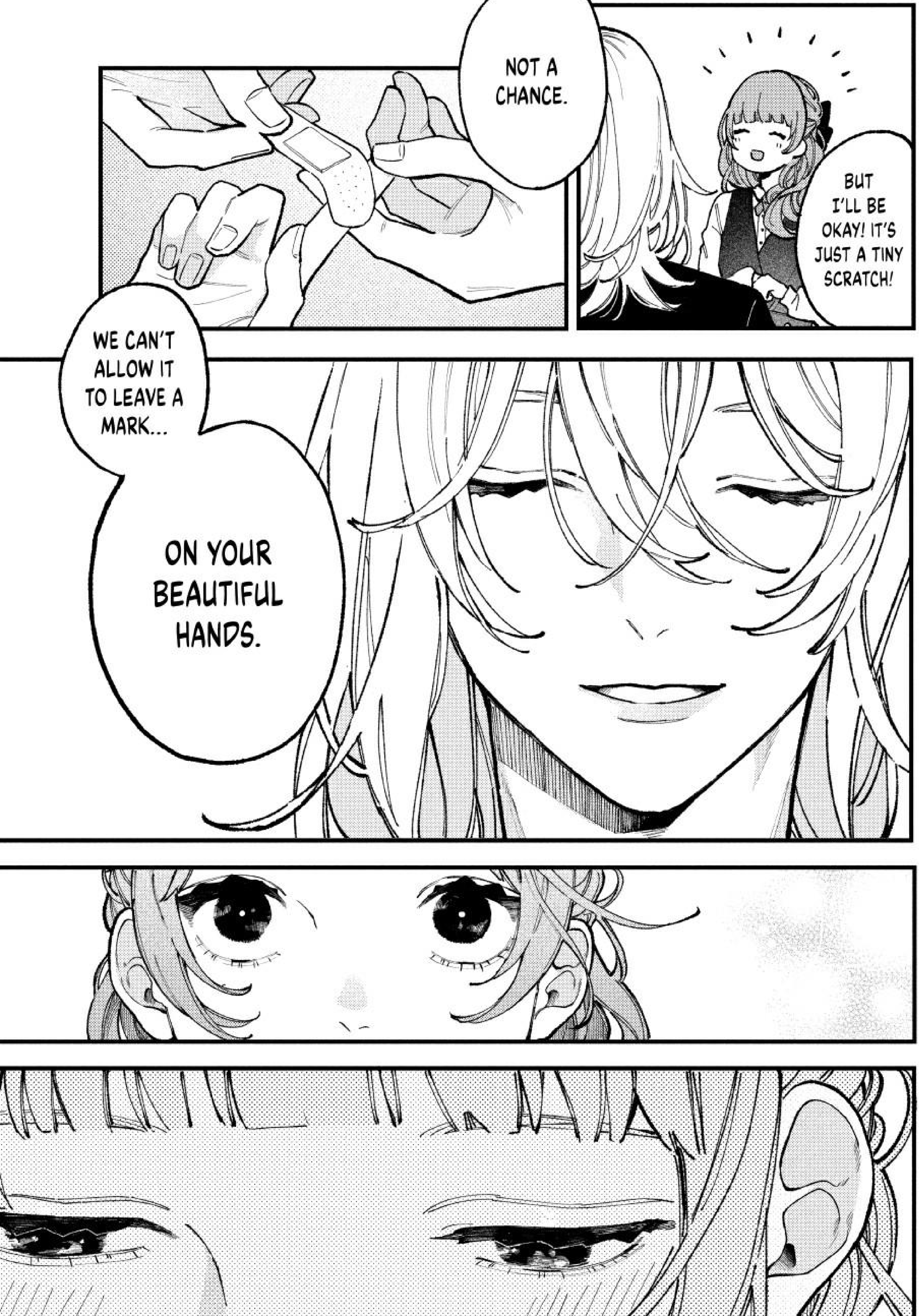

I'M SORRY. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
THROOOB
ズキュー
I-I-I...
I'M F-F-FINE!
OH, THANK GOODNESS!
BYE!
SORRY FOR THE BOTHER.
...

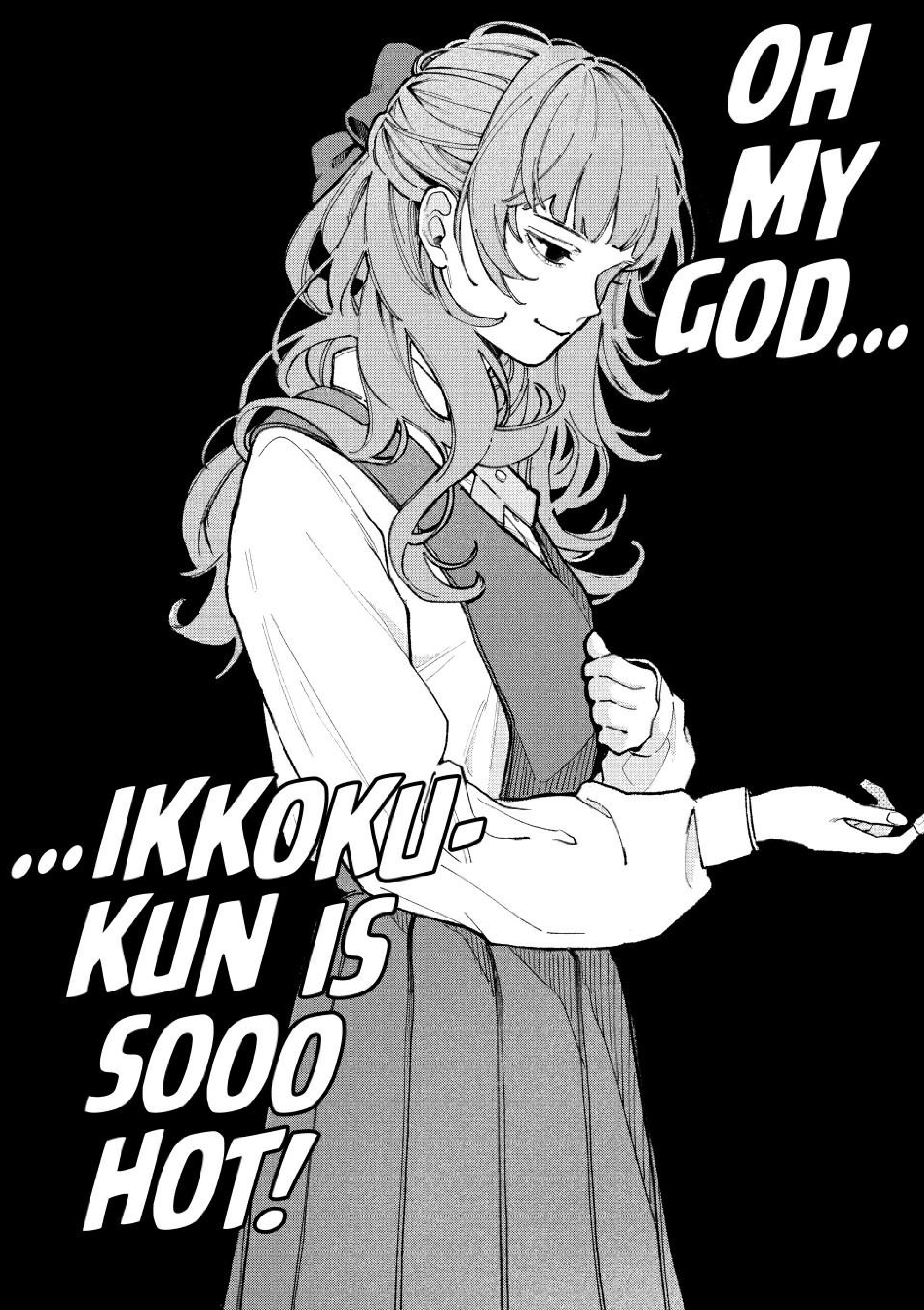

...
YEAH, I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN NOW.

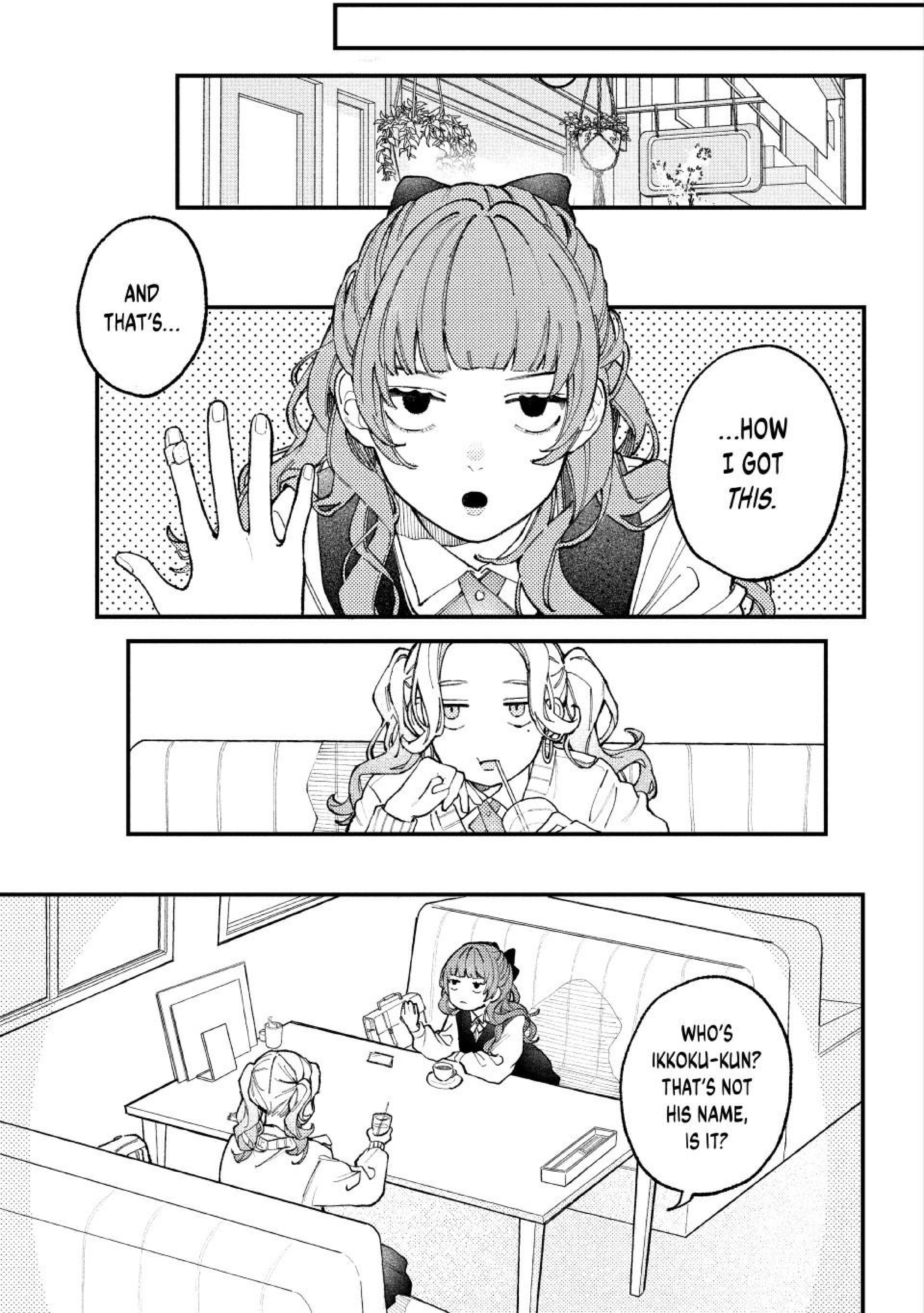

OTOGI KATSURA PLUS TOKI NINOMAE...
THE FIRST-YEARS' PRESIDENTIAL DUO.

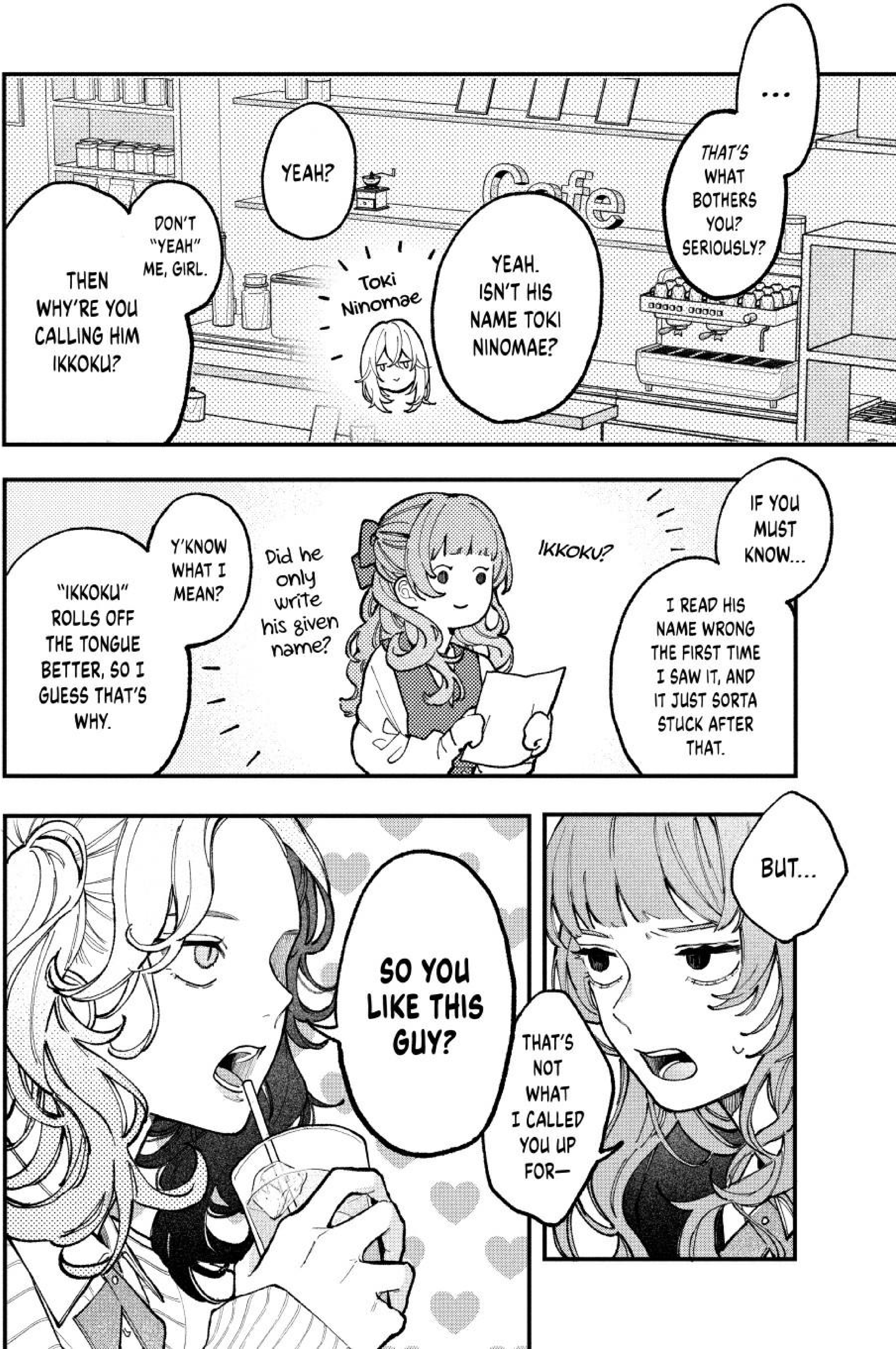
I'M GONNA TRY GROWING MY HAIR OUT.
MAYBE THEN I CAN SWEEP A GIRL OFF HER FEET NEXT TIME...
THE ONLY THING YOU'LL BE SWEEPING AWAY IS YOUR OWN EXPECTATIONS.

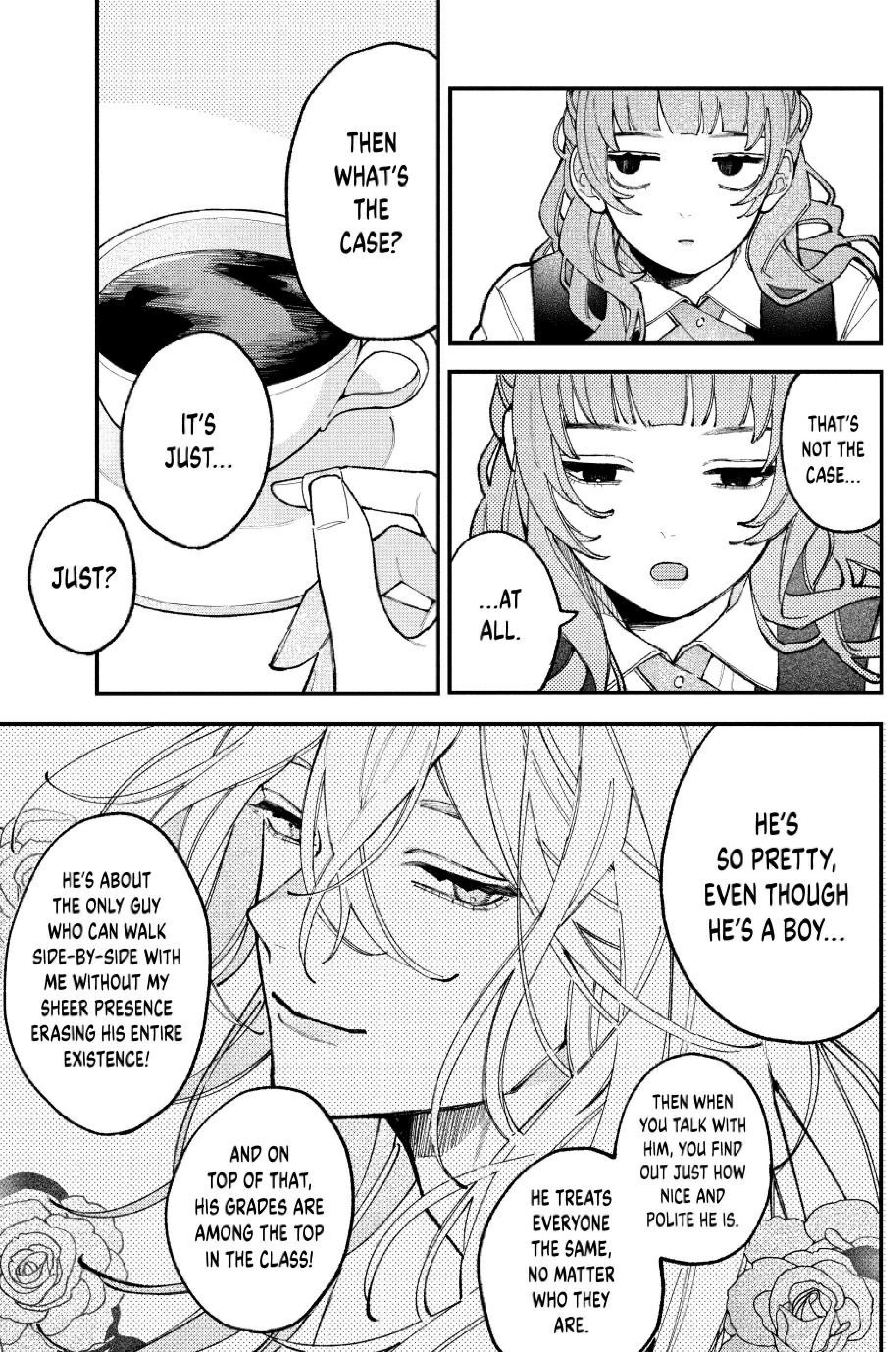

1 - A
HERE'S THE PRINTOUT I MEANT TO GIVE TO YOU EARLIER.
SORRY, I SHOULD'VE JUST WAITED UNTIL WE WERE INDOORS.
HEE HEE.
IT'S FINE.
Her giggles are like an angel's...
His voice is so soothing...
THEIR CLASSMATES
OH.
KATSURA-SAN...
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FINGER?
HUH?
OH... I THINK IT WAS THE PAPER. IT HAD KIND OF A SHARP EDGE...

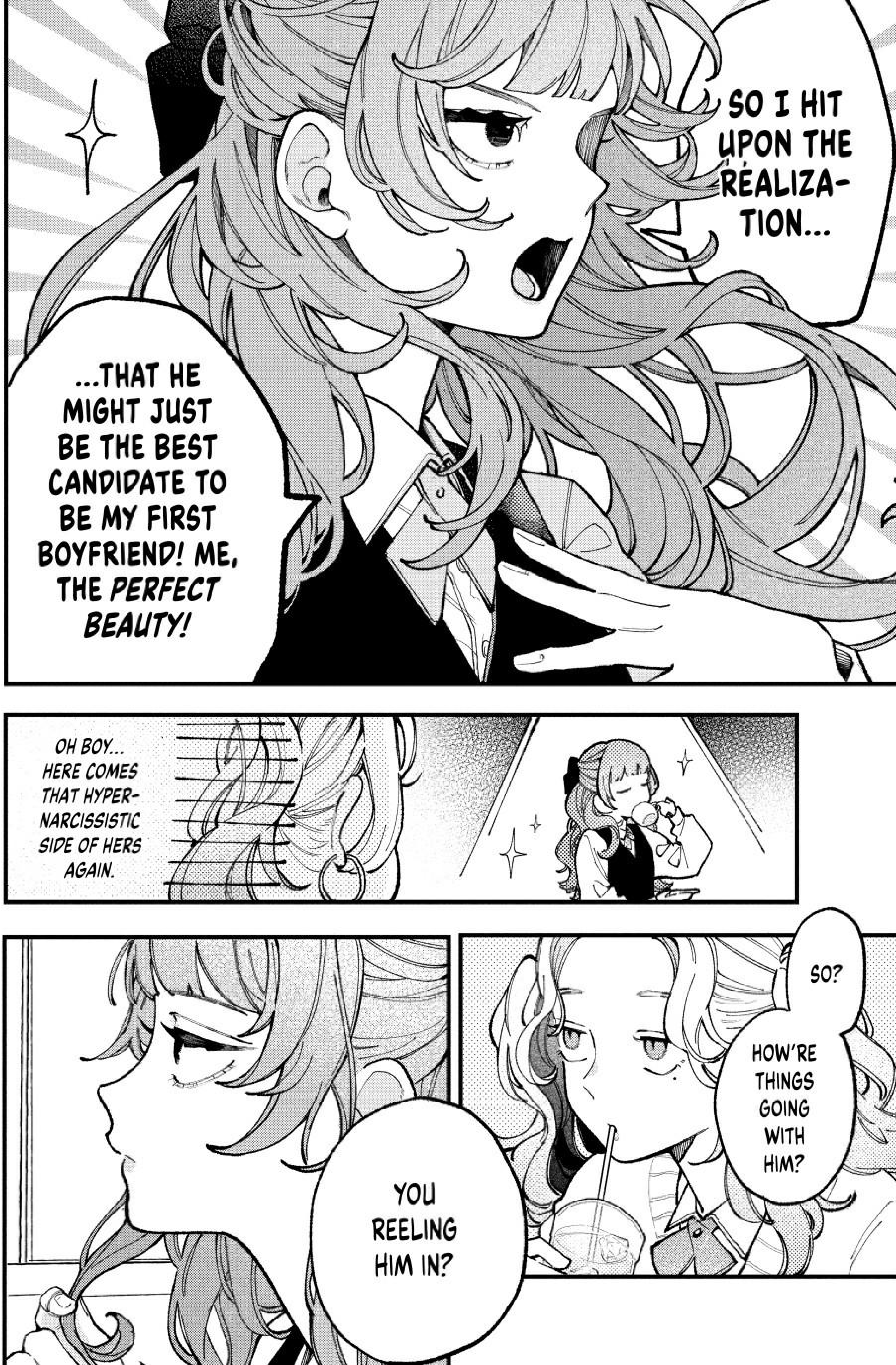

BUT I'LL BE OKAY! IT'S JUST A TINY SCRATCH!
NOT A CHANCE.
WE CAN'T ALLOW IT TO LEAVE A MARK...
ON YOUR BEAUTIFUL HANDS.

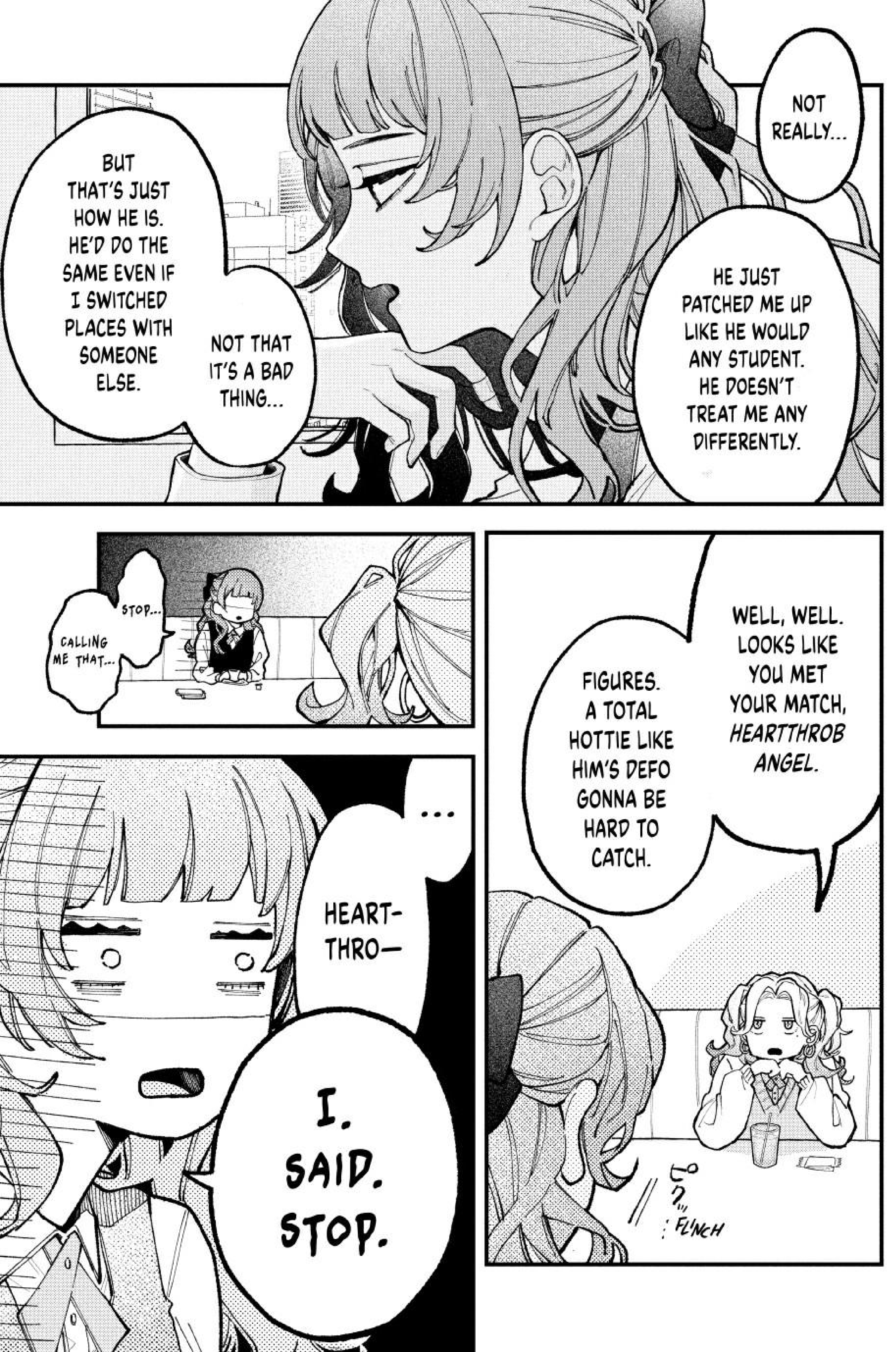

OH MY GOD...
...IKKOKU-KUN IS SOOO HOT!

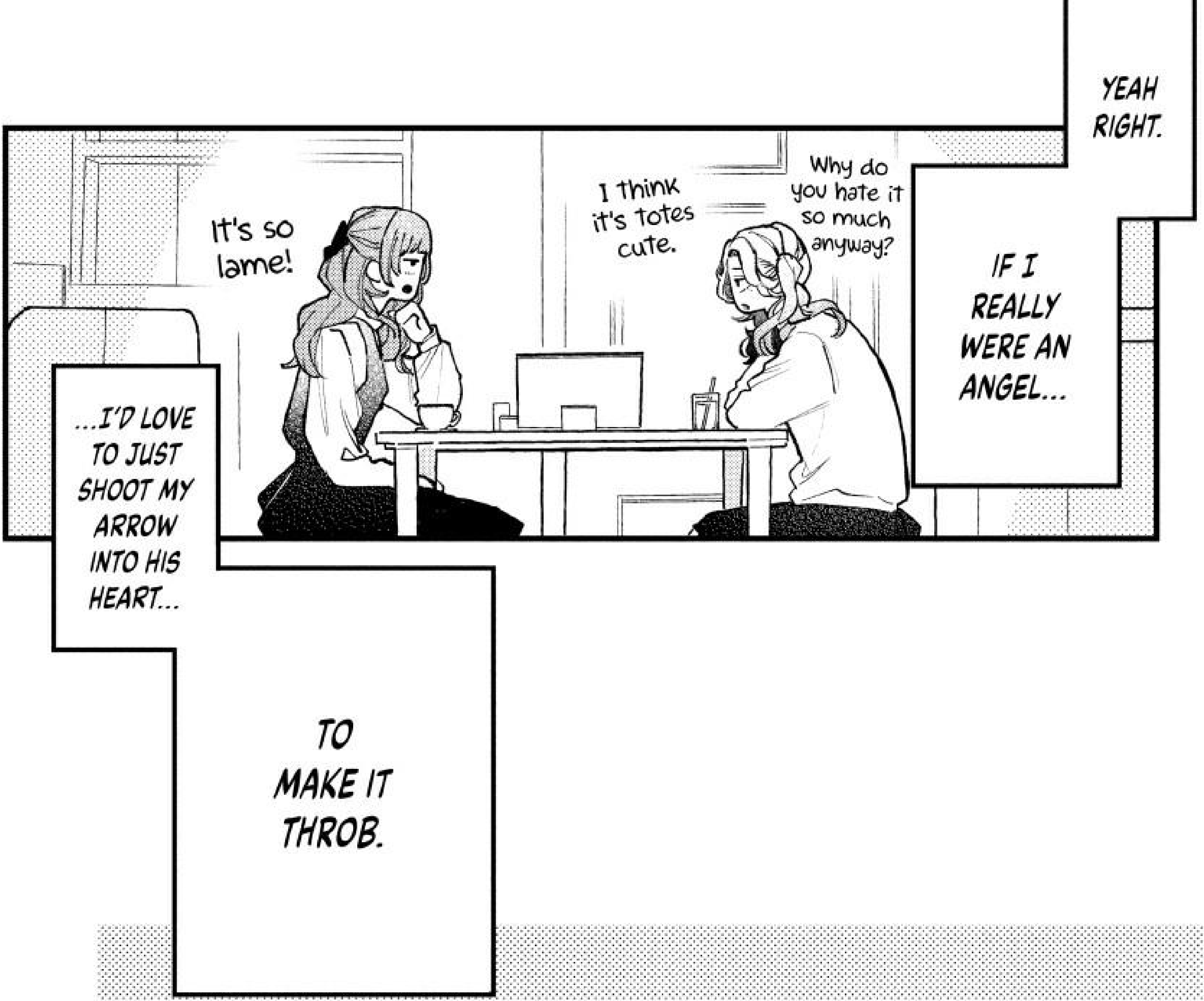

AND THAT'S...
...HOW I GOT *THIS.*
WHO'S IKKOKU-KUN? THAT'S NOT HIS NAME, IS IT?

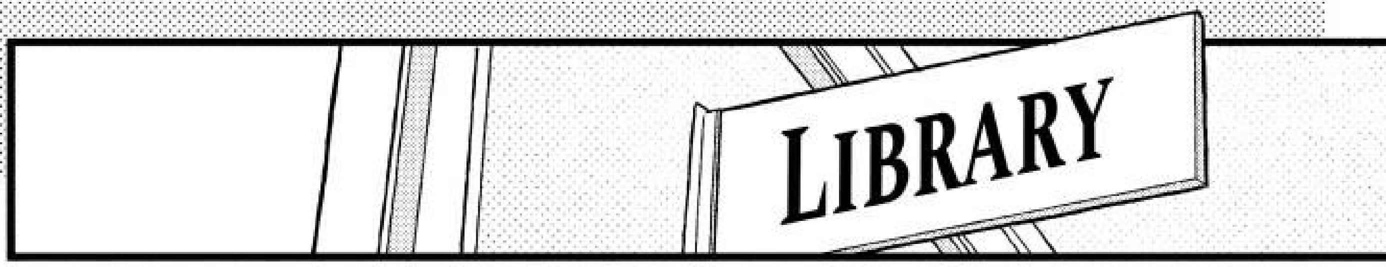

...
THAT'S WHAT BOTHERS YOU? SERIOUSLY?
YEAH. ISN'T HIS NAME TOKI NINOMAE?
Toki Ninomae
YEAH?
DON'T "YEAH" ME, GIRL.
THEN WHY'RE YOU CALLING HIM IKKOKU?
IF YOU MUST KNOW...
I READ HIS NAME WRONG THE FIRST TIME I SAW IT, AND IT JUST SORTA STUCK AFTER THAT.
IKKOKU?
Did he only write his given name?
Y'KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
"IKKOKU" ROLLS OFF THE TONGUE BETTER, SO I GUESS THAT'S WHY.
BUT...
THAT'S NOT WHAT I CALLED YOU UP FOR—
SO YOU LIKE THIS GUY?

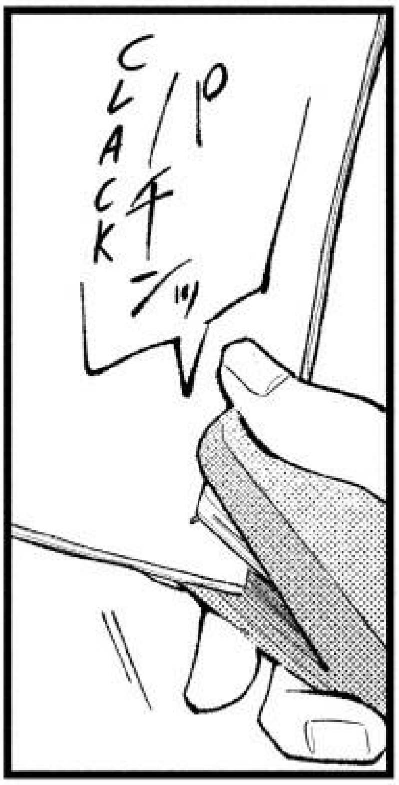

THAT'S NOT THE CASE...
...AT ALL.
THEN WHAT'S THE CASE?
IT'S JUST...
JUST?
HE'S SO PRETTY, EVEN THOUGH HE'S A BOY...
HE'S ABOUT THE ONLY GUY WHO CAN WALK SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH ME WITHOUT MY SHEER PRESENCE ERASING HIS ENTIRE EXISTENCE!
AND ON TOP OF THAT, HIS GRADES ARE AMONG THE TOP IN THE CLASS!
THEN WHEN YOU TALK WITH HIM, YOU FIND OUT JUST HOW NICE AND POLITE HE IS.
HE TREATS EVERYONE THE SAME, NO MATTER WHO THEY ARE.

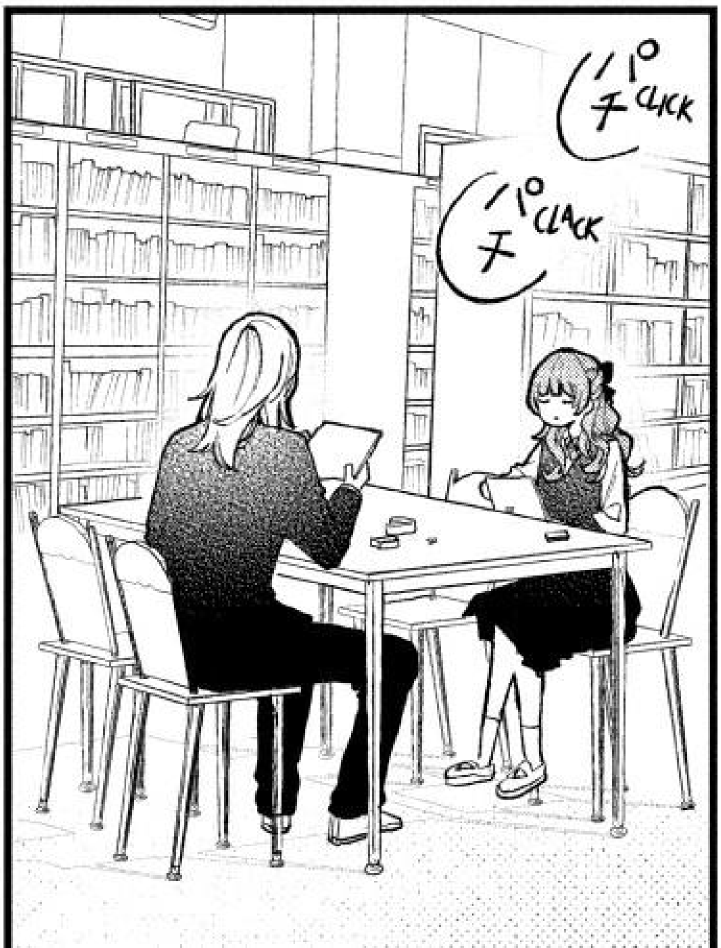

SO I HIT UPON THE REALIZATION...
...THAT HE MIGHT JUST BE THE BEST CANDIDATE TO BE MY FIRST BOYFRIEND! ME, THE *PERFECT BEAUTY!*
OH BOY... HERE COMES THAT HYPER-NARCISSISTIC SIDE OF HERS AGAIN.
SO?
HOW'RE THINGS GOING WITH HIM?
YOU REELING HIM IN?

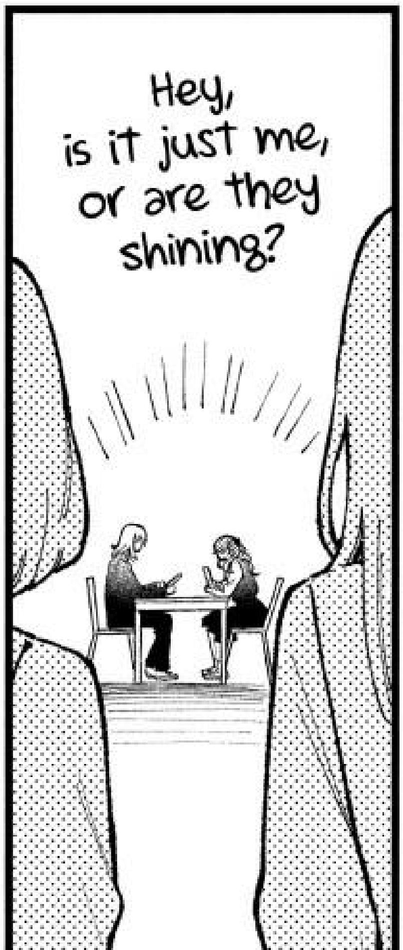

NOT REALLY...
HE JUST PATCHED ME UP LIKE HE WOULD ANY STUDENT. HE DOESN'T TREAT ME ANY DIFFERENTLY.
BUT THAT'S JUST HOW HE IS. HE'D DO THE SAME EVEN IF I SWITCHED PLACES WITH SOMEONE ELSE.
NOT THAT IT'S A BAD THING...
WELL, WELL. LOOKS LIKE YOU MET YOUR MATCH, *HEARTTHROB ANGEL.*
STOP... CALLING ME THAT...
FIGURES. A TOTAL HOTTIE LIKE HIM'S DEFO GONNA BE HARD TO CATCH.
...
HEART-THRO—
I. SAID. STOP.
ぴくっ FLINCH

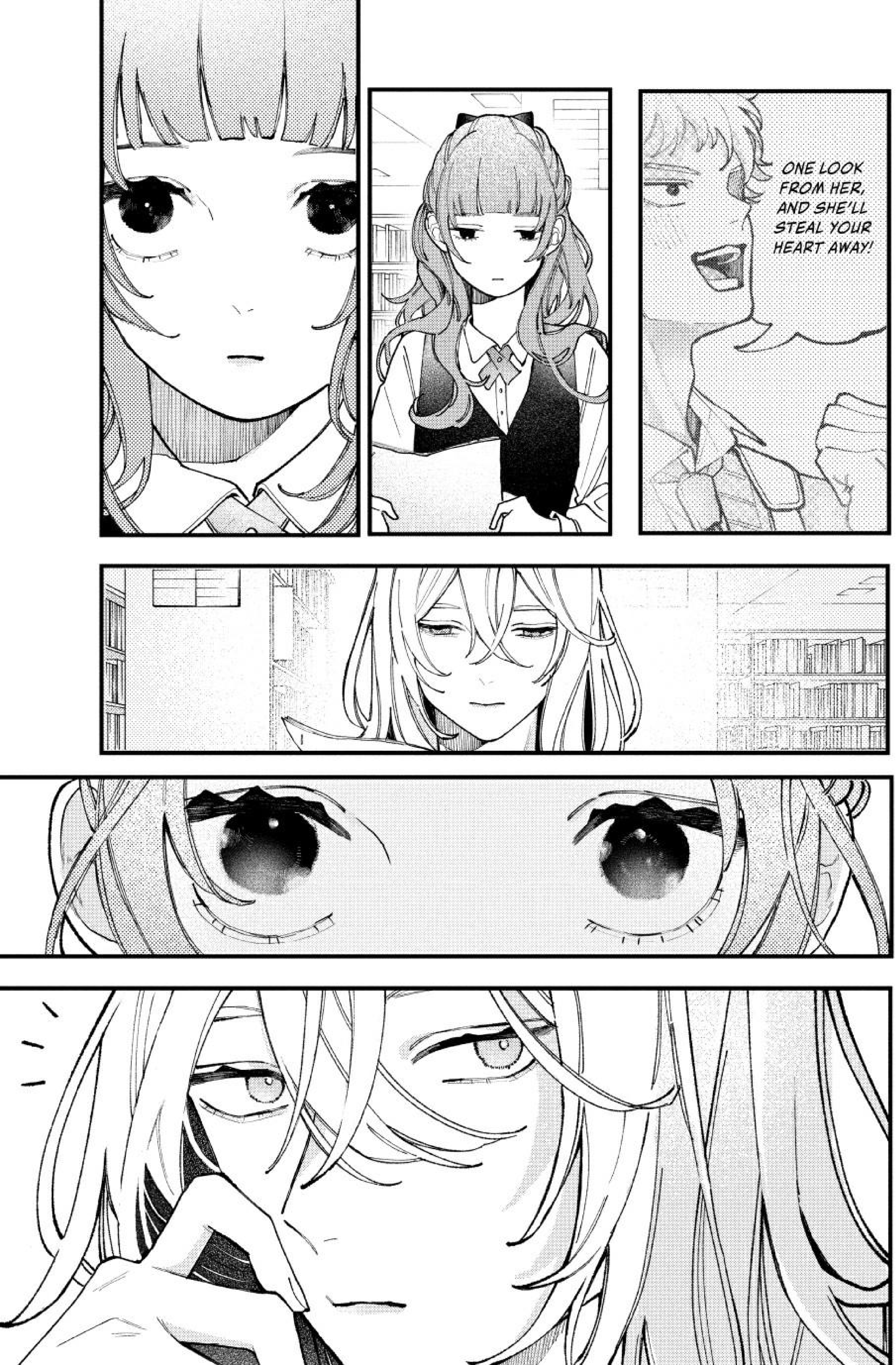

YEAH RIGHT.
IF I REALLY WERE AN ANGEL...
Why do you hate it so much anyway?
I think it's totes cute.
It's so lame!
...I'D LOVE TO JUST SHOOT MY ARROW INTO HIS HEART...
TO MAKE IT THROB.

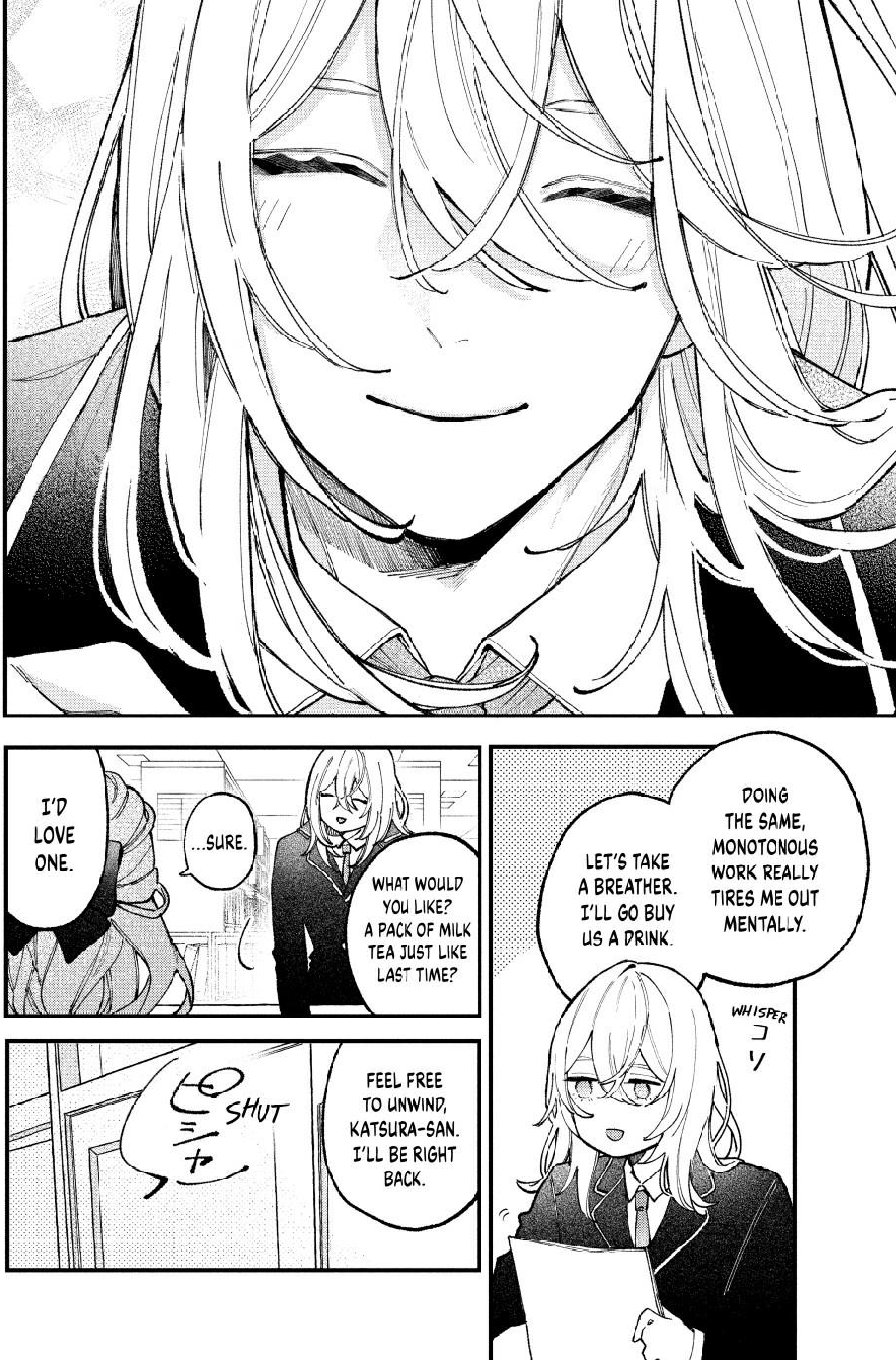

LIBRARY

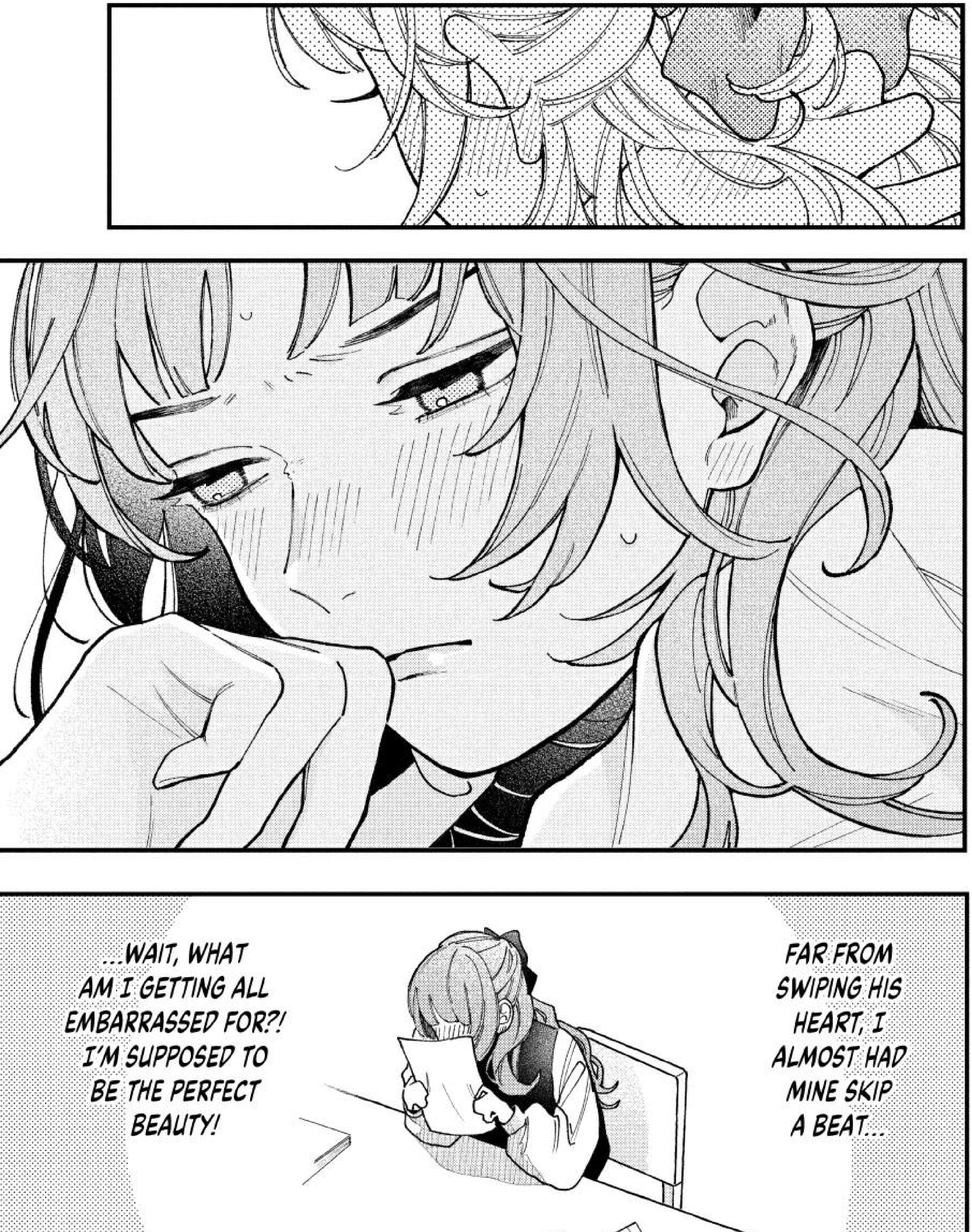

パチン CLACK

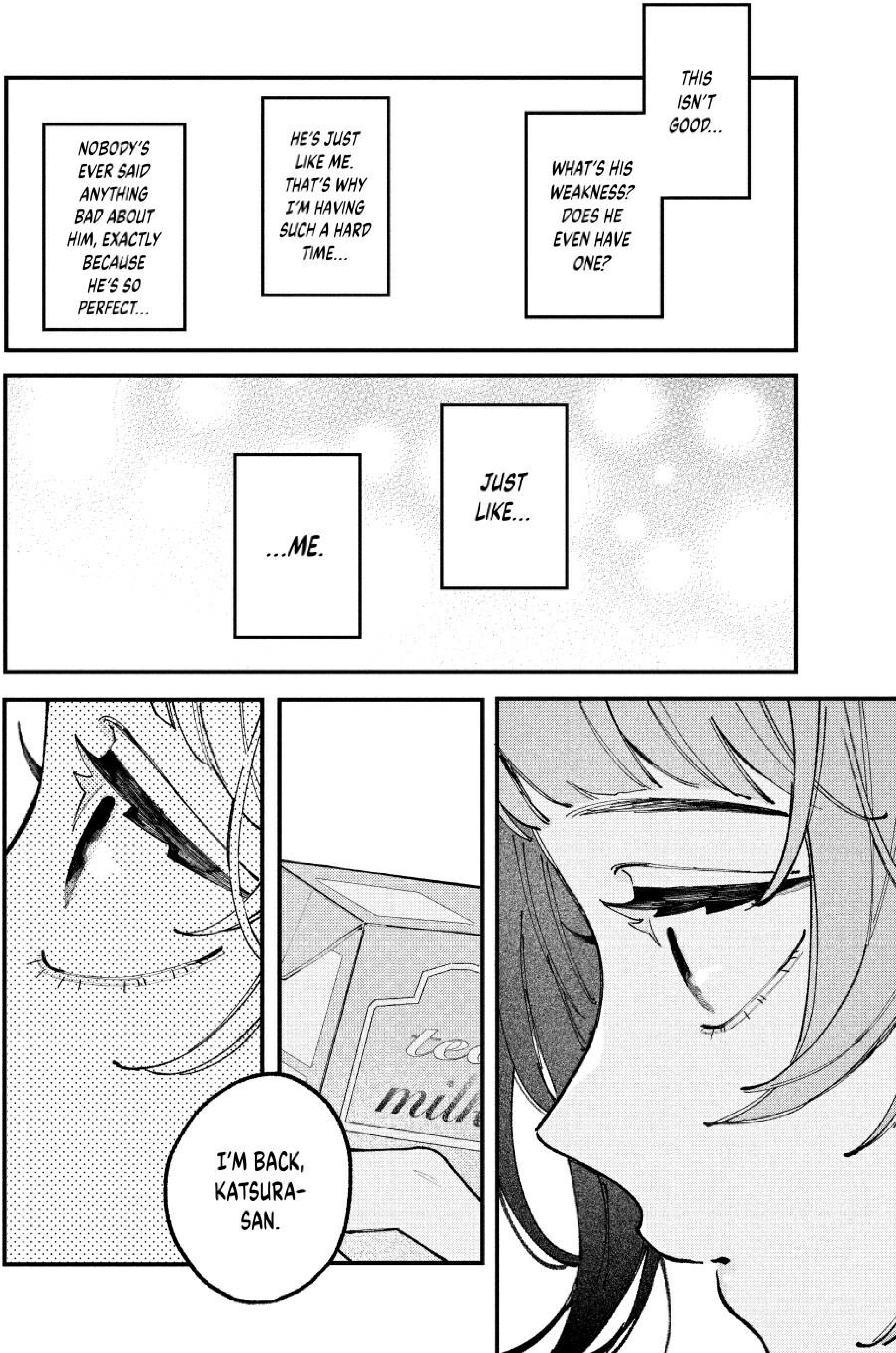

パチ CLACK
パチ CLACK


Hey, is it just me, or are they shining?


ONE LOOK FROM HER, AND SHE'LL STEAL YOUR HEART AWAY!


DOING THE SAME, MONOTONOUS WORK REALLY TIRES ME OUT MENTALLY.
LET'S TAKE A BREATHER. I'LL GO BUY US A DRINK.
WHISPER コソ
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE? A PACK OF MILK TEA JUST LIKE LAST TIME?
...SURE.
I'D LOVE ONE.
FEEL FREE TO UNWIND, KATSURA-SAN. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
ピシャ SHUT


FAR FROM SWIPING HIS HEART, I ALMOST HAD MINE SKIP A BEAT...
...WAIT, WHAT AM I GETTING ALL EMBARRASSED FOR?! I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THE PERFECT BEAUTY!


THIS ISN'T GOOD...
WHAT'S HIS WEAKNESS? DOES HE EVEN HAVE ONE?
HE'S JUST LIKE ME. THAT'S WHY I'M HAVING SUCH A HARD TIME...
NOBODY'S EVER SAID ANYTHING BAD ABOUT HIM, EXACTLY BECAUSE HE'S SO PERFECT...
JUST LIKE...
...ME.
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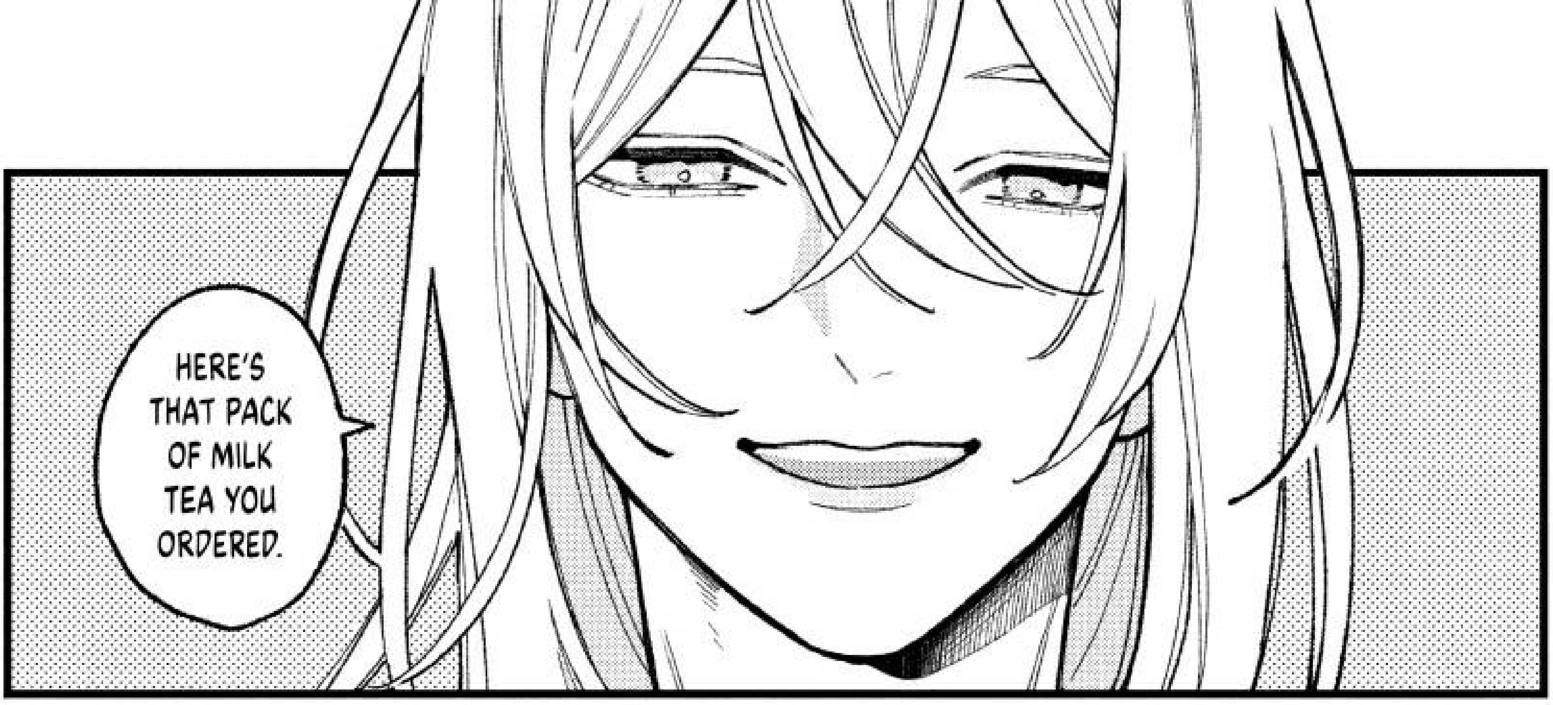
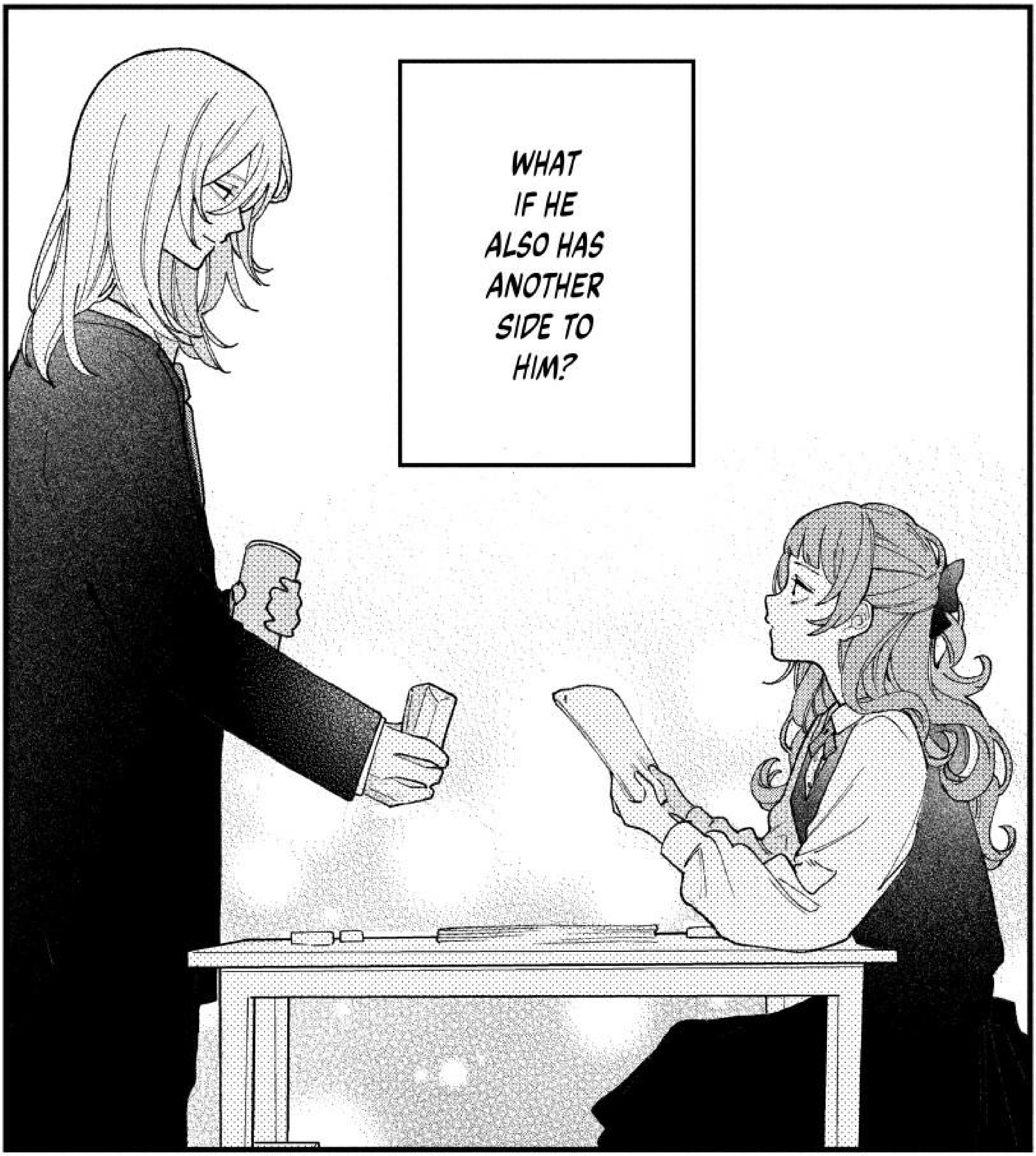
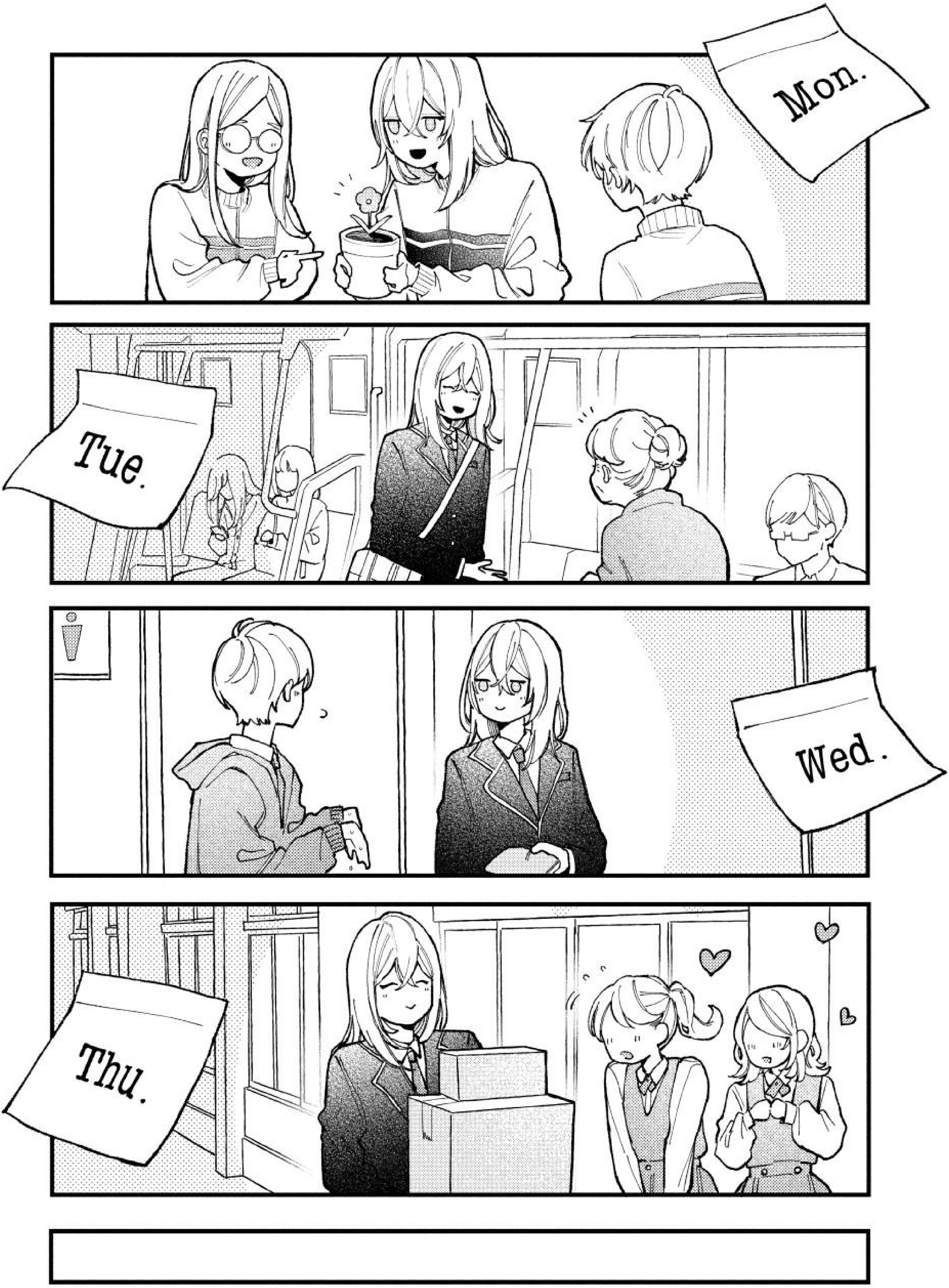
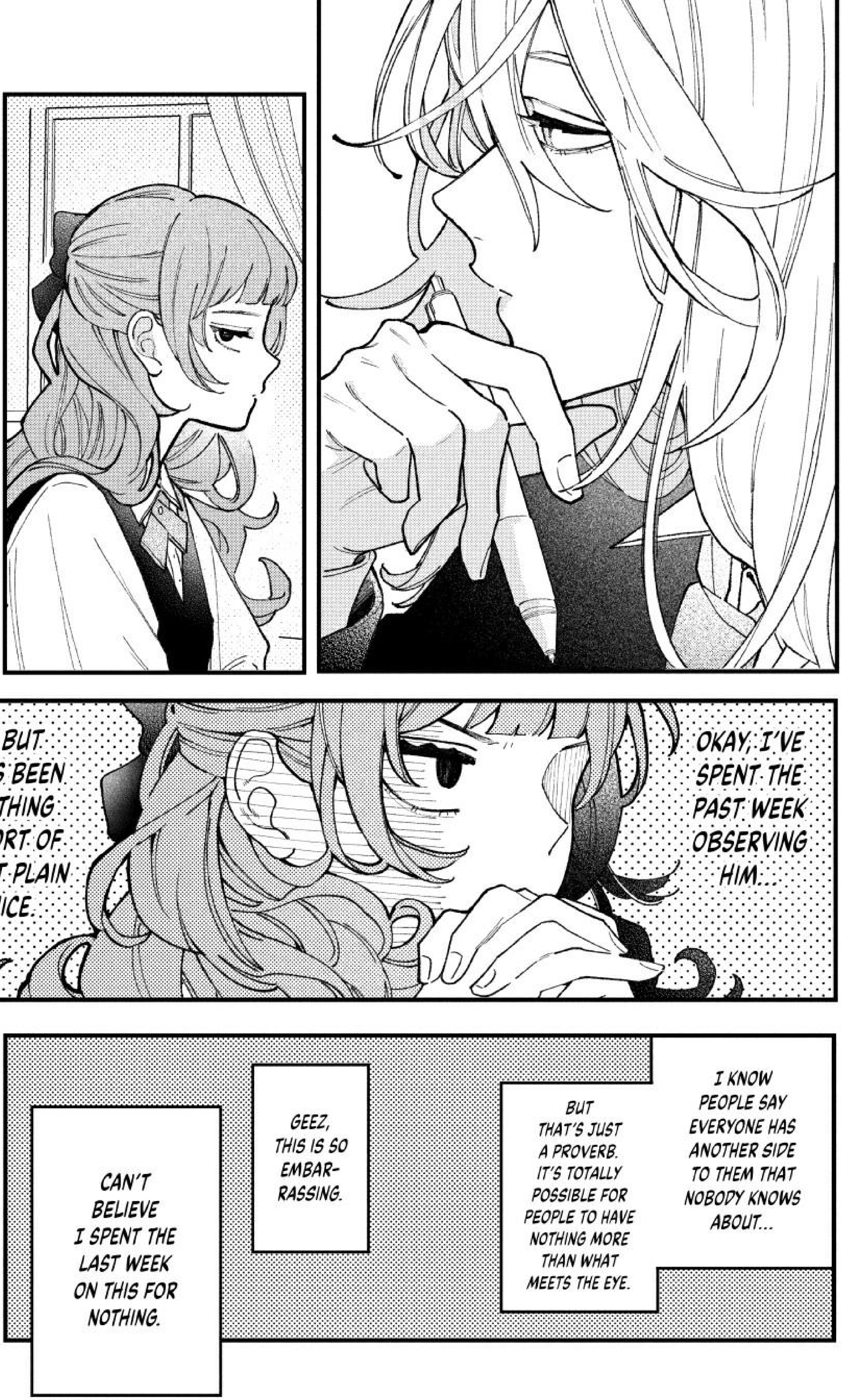
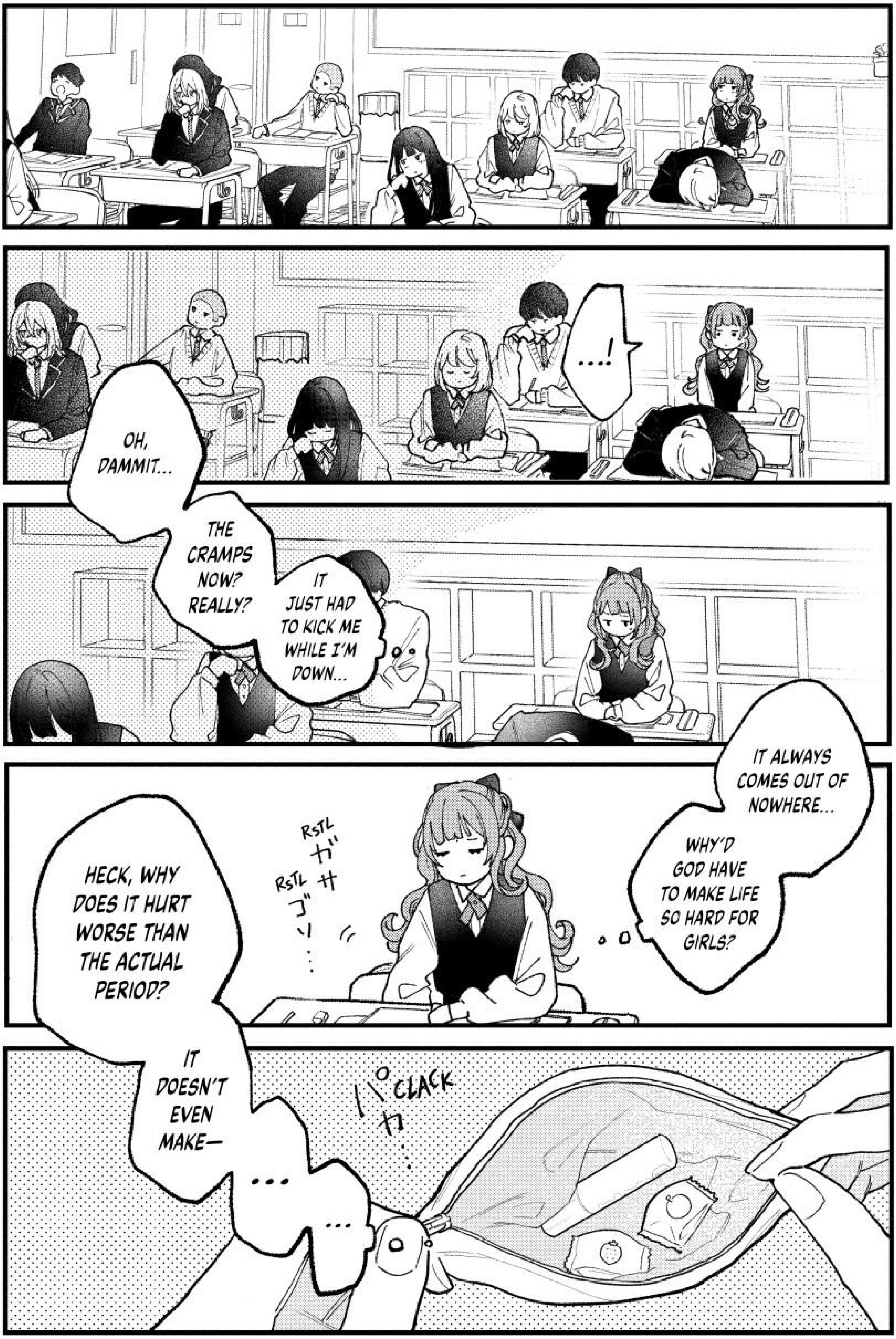
mil
I'M BACK, KATSURA-SAN.

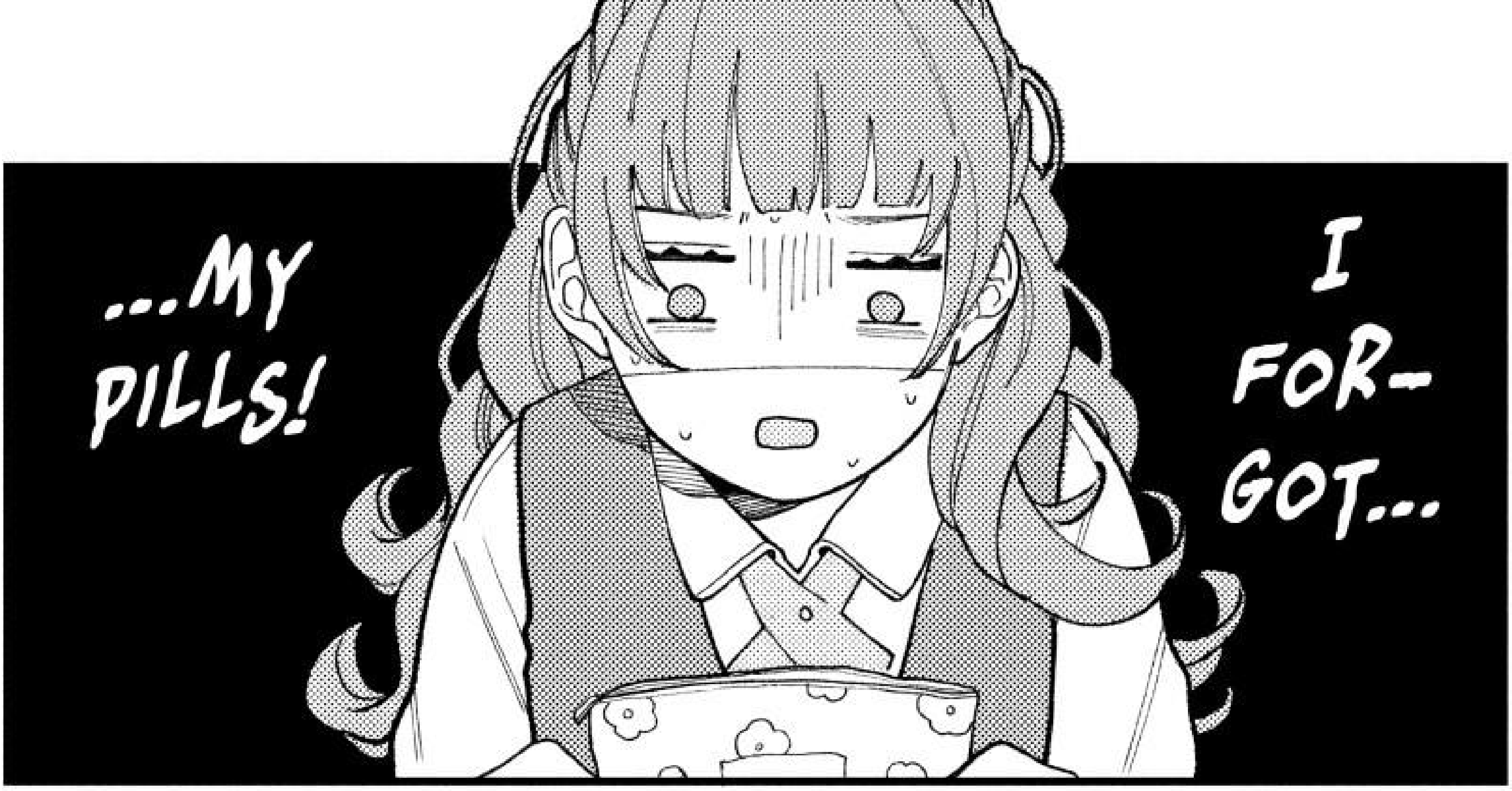

HERE'S THAT PACK OF MILK TEA YOU ORDERED.

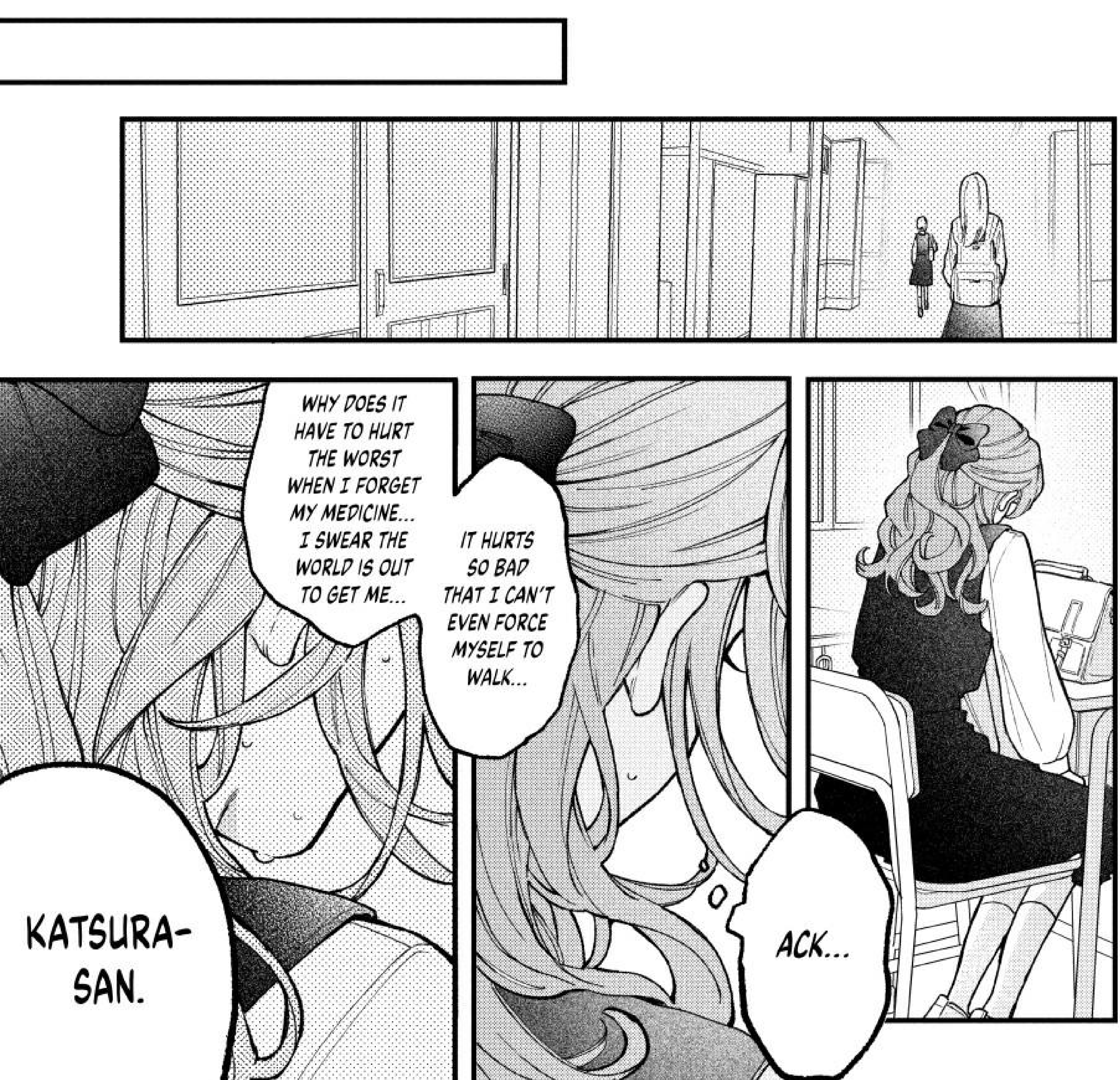

WHAT IF HE ALSO HAS ANOTHER SIDE TO HIM?

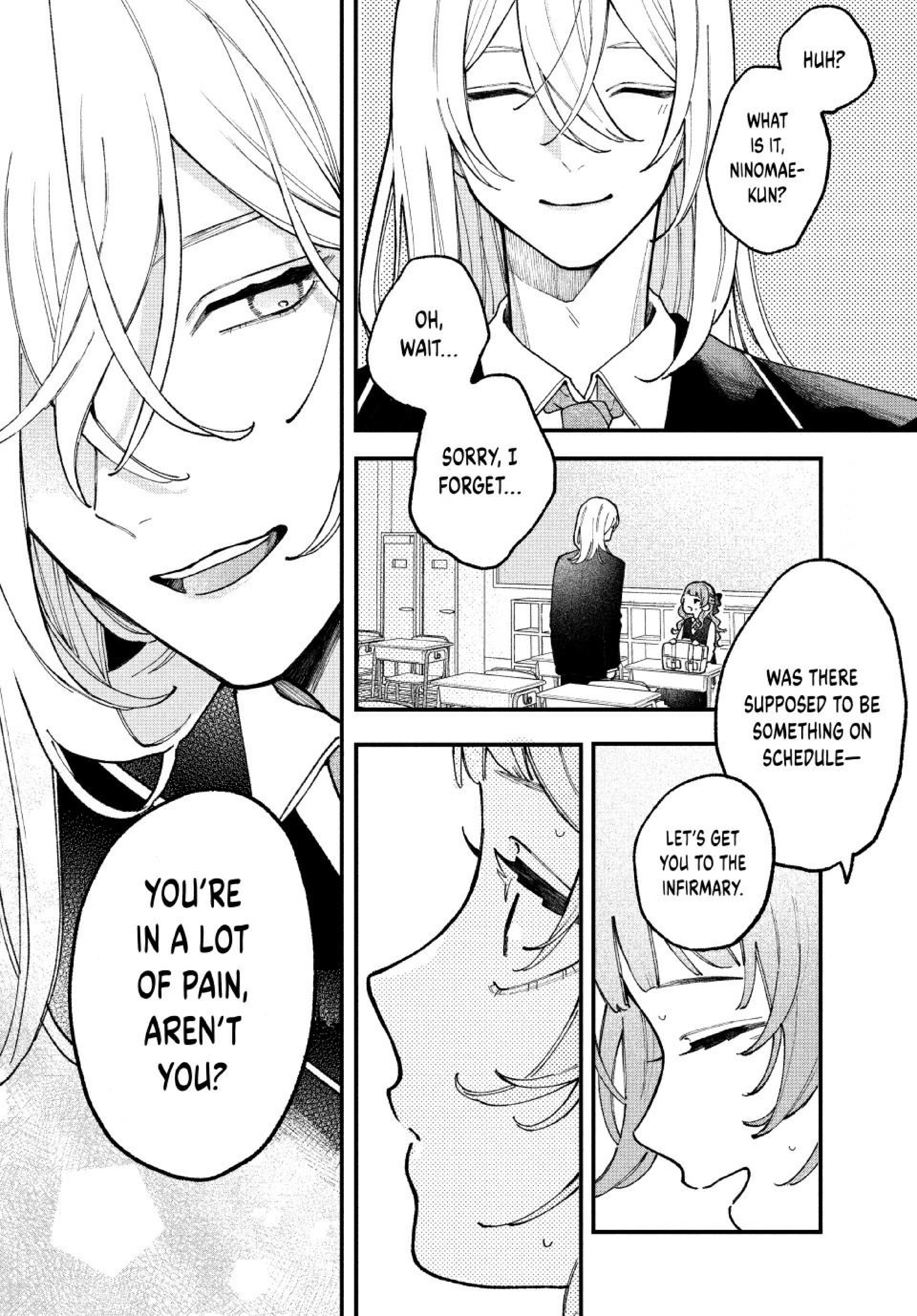

Mon.
Tue.
Wed.
Thu.

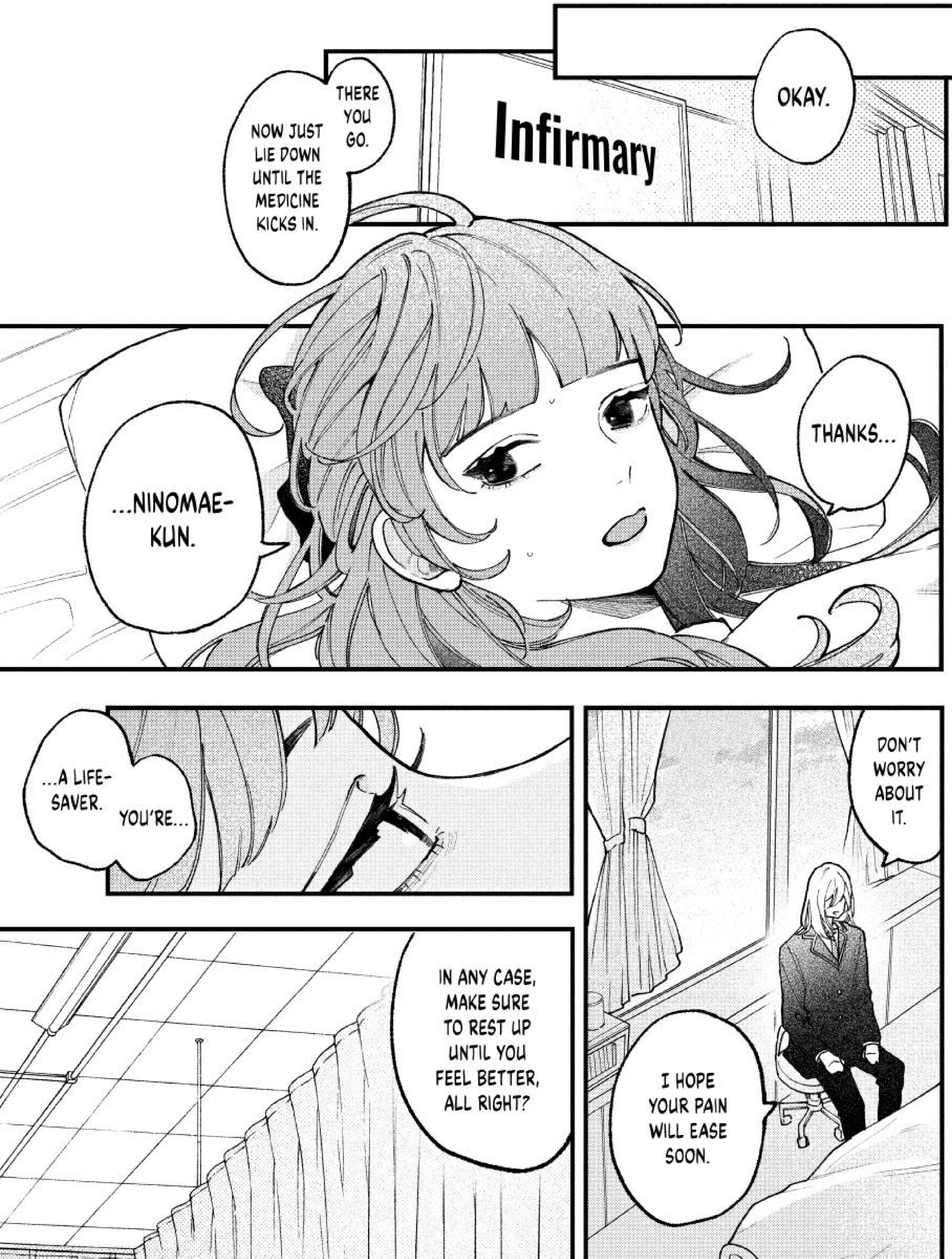

OKAY, I'VE SPENT THE PAST WEEK OBSERVING HIM...
...BUT HE'S BEEN NOTHING SHORT OF JUST PLAIN NICE.
I KNOW PEOPLE SAY EVERYONE HAS ANOTHER SIDE TO THEM THAT NOBODY KNOWS ABOUT...
BUT THAT'S JUST A PROVERB. IT'S TOTALLY POSSIBLE FOR PEOPLE TO HAVE NOTHING MORE THAN WHAT MEETS THE EYE.
GEEZ, THIS IS SO EMBARRASSING.
CAN'T BELIEVE I SPENT THE LAST WEEK ON THIS FOR NOTHING.

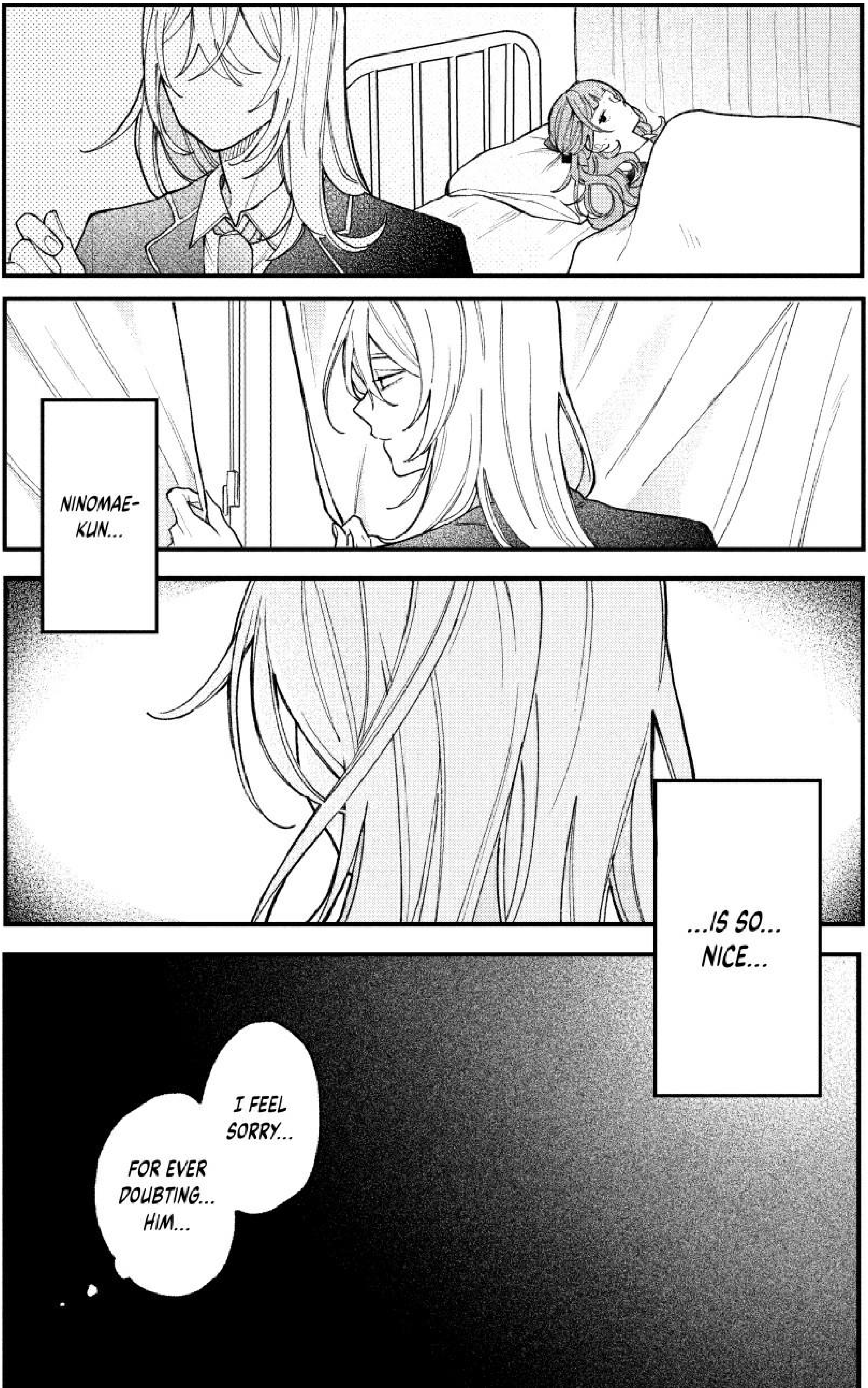

...!
OH, DAMMIT...
THE CRAMPS NOW? REALLY?
IT JUST HAD TO KICK ME WHILE I'M DOWN...
IT ALWAYS COMES OUT OF NOWHERE...
WHY'D GOD HAVE TO MAKE LIFE SO HARD FOR GIRLS?
RSTL ガサ
RSTL ゴソ...
HECK, WHY DOES IT HURT WORSE THAN THE ACTUAL PERIOD?
IT DOESN'T EVEN MAKE—
...
...
パカ CLACK
...

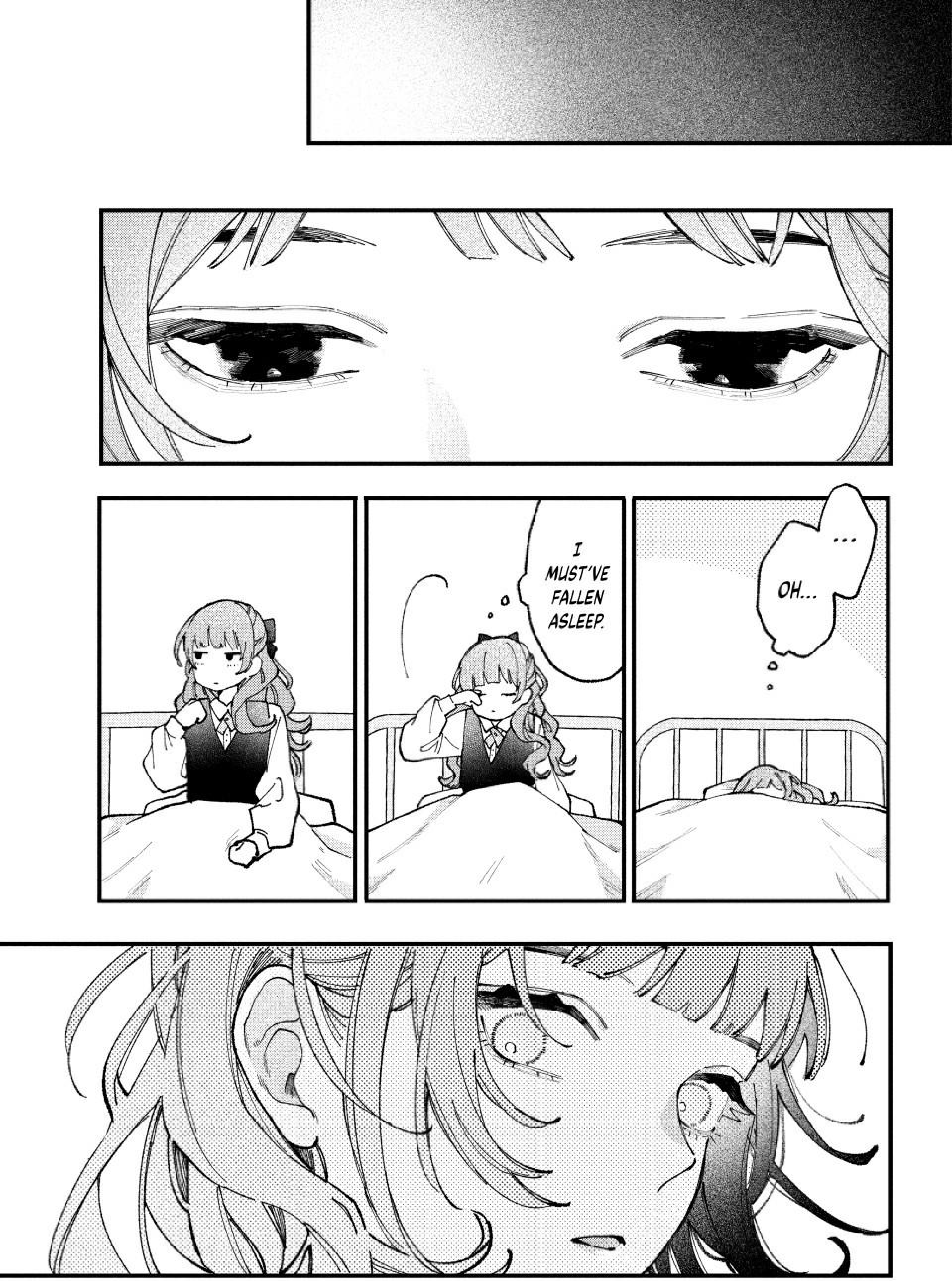

I FOR-GOT...
...MY PILLS!

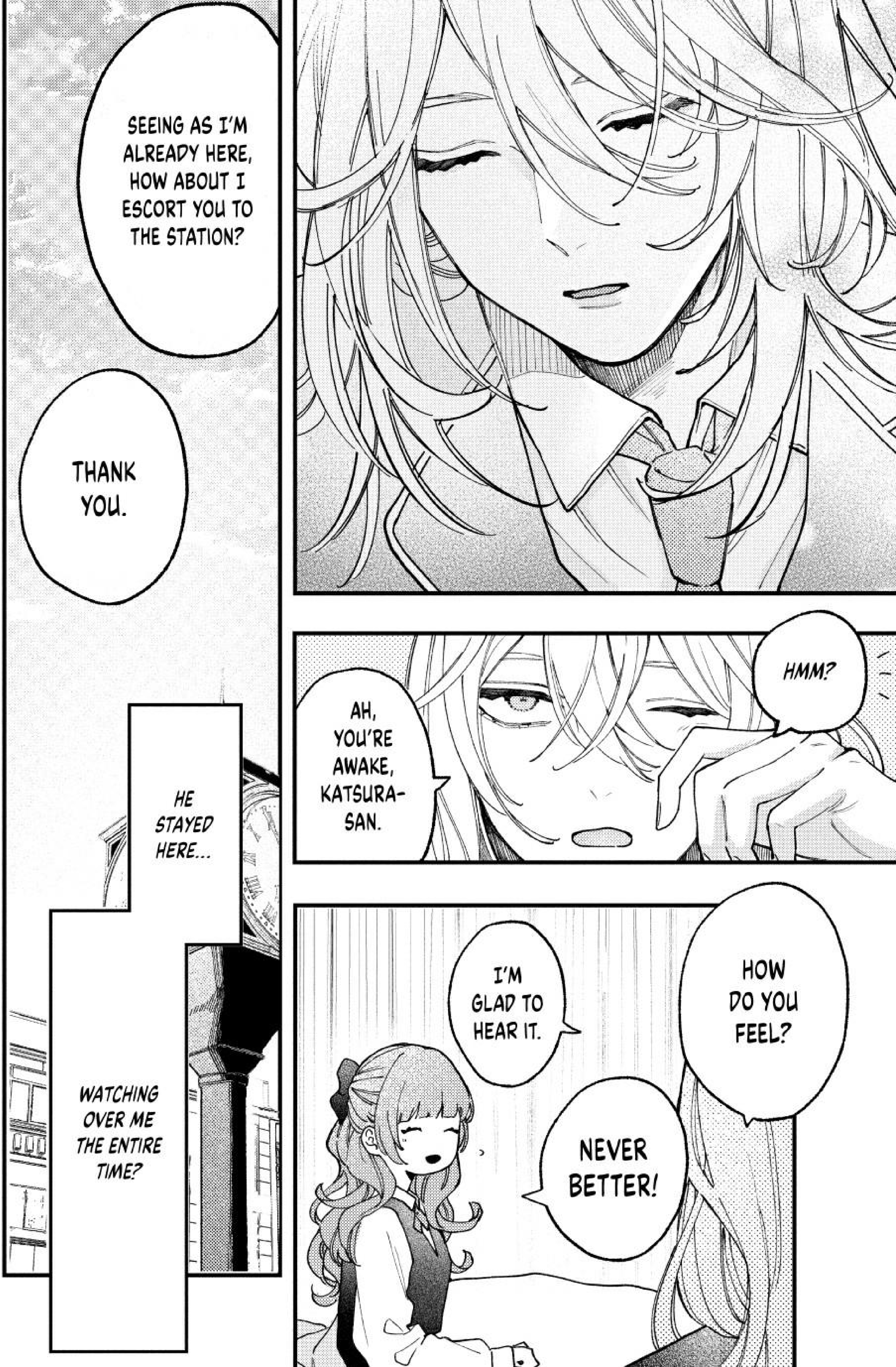

WHY DOES IT HAVE TO HURT THE WORST WHEN I FORGET MY MEDICINE... I SWEAR THE WORLD IS OUT TO GET ME...
IT HURTS SO BAD THAT I CAN'T EVEN FORCE MYSELF TO WALK...
ACK...
KATSURA-SAN.

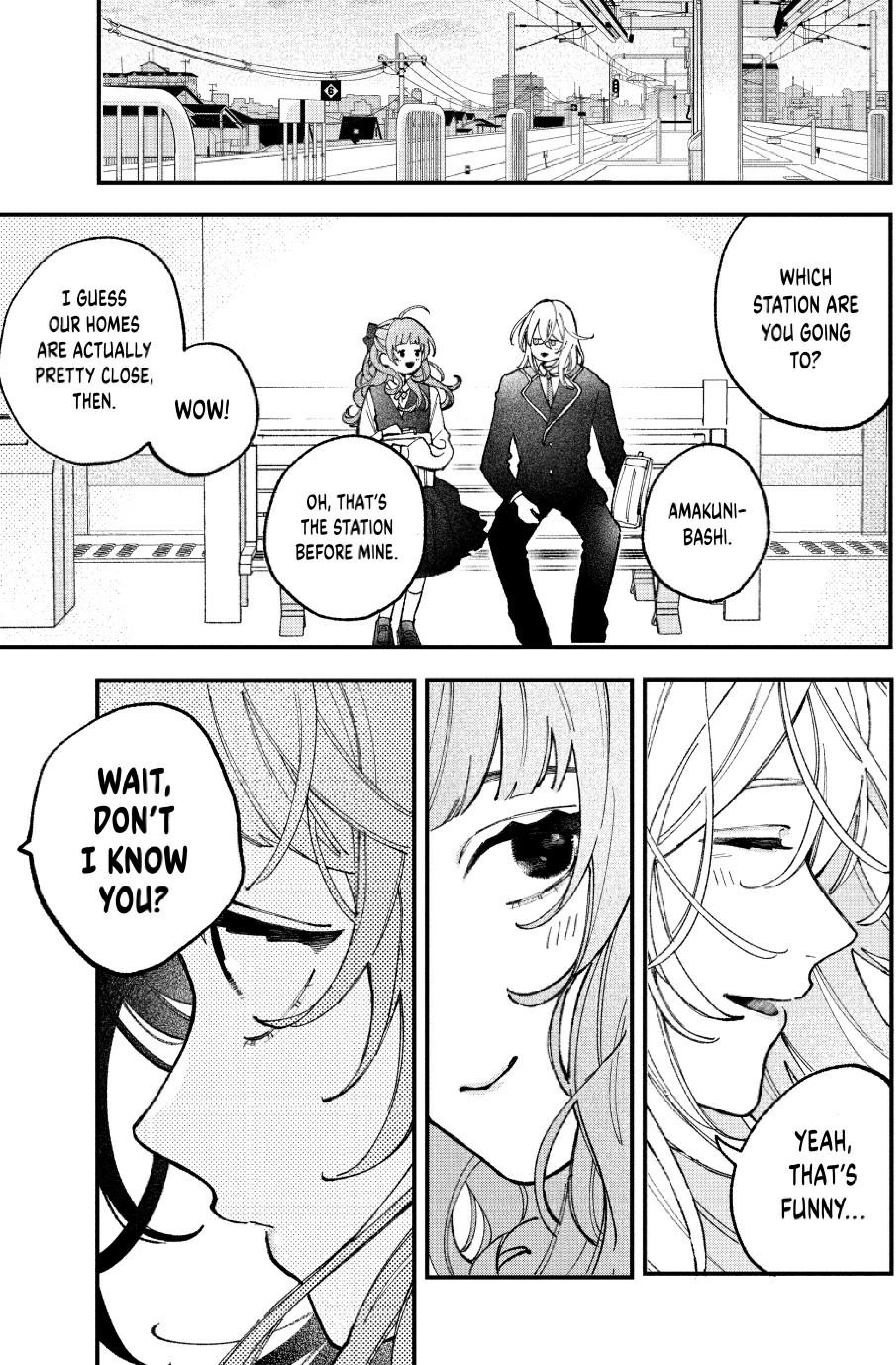

HUH?
WHAT IS IT, NINOMAE-KUN?
OH, WAIT…
SORRY, I FORGET…
WAS THERE SUPPOSED TO BE SOMETHING ON SCHEDULE—
LET'S GET YOU TO THE INFIRMARY.
YOU'RE IN A LOT OF PAIN, AREN'T YOU?

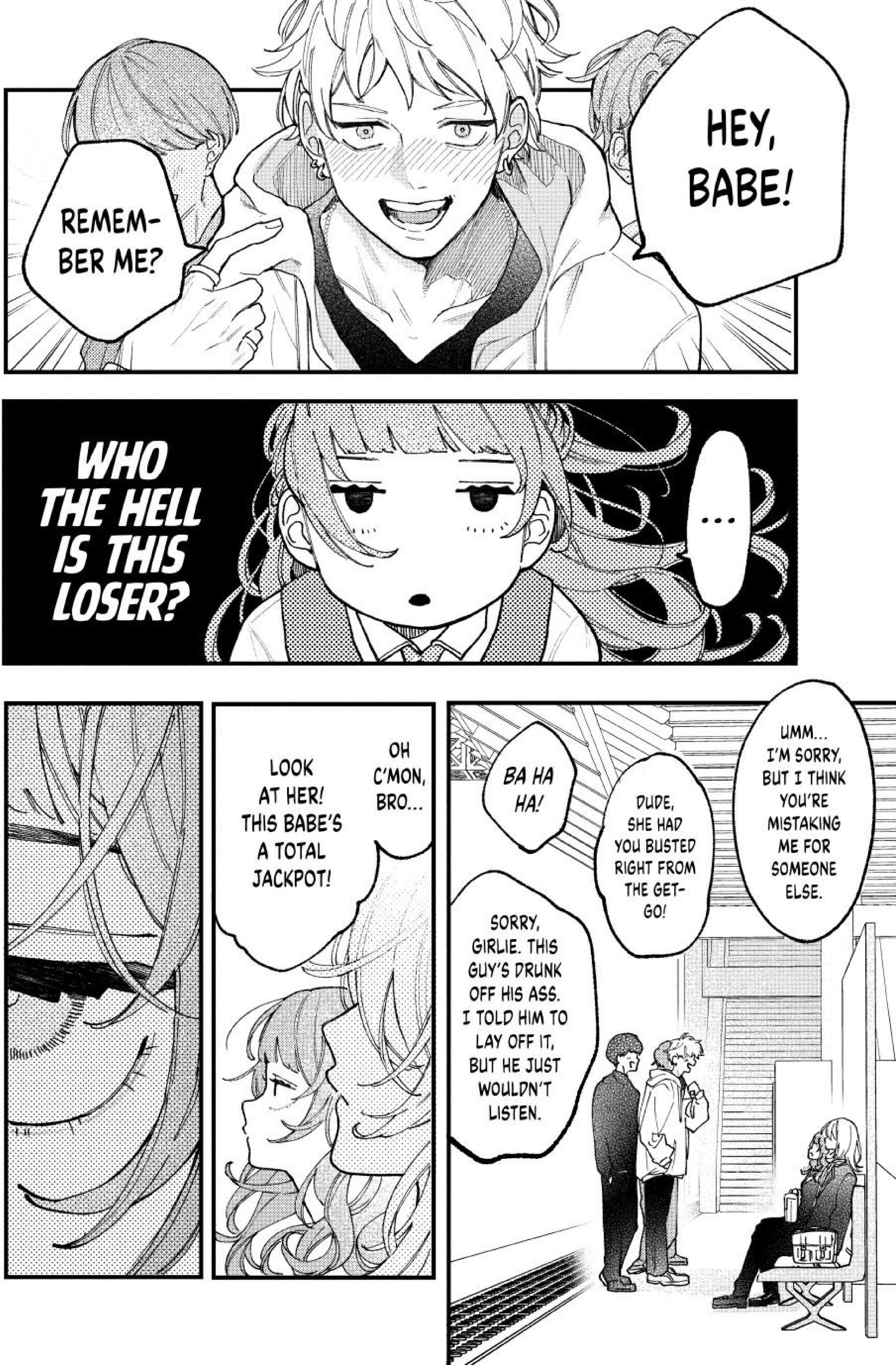

Infirmary
THERE YOU GO.
NOW JUST LIE DOWN UNTIL THE MEDICINE KICKS IN.
OKAY.
THANKS...
...NINOMAE-KUN.
YOU'RE...
...A LIFE-SAVER.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I HOPE YOUR PAIN WILL EASE SOON.
IN ANY CASE, MAKE SURE TO REST UP UNTIL YOU FEEL BETTER, ALL RIGHT?

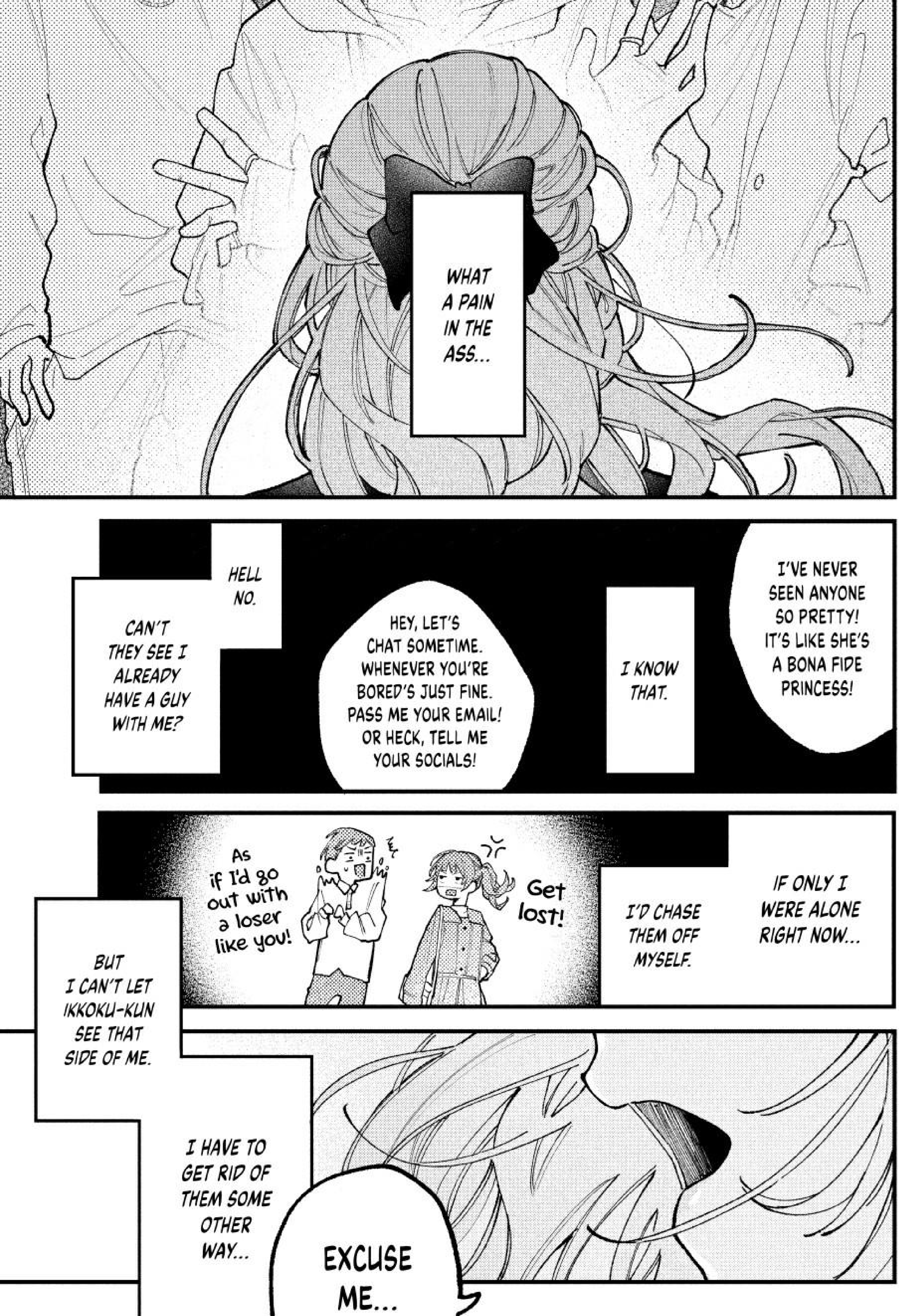

NINOMAE-KUN...
...IS SO... NICE...
I FEEL SORRY... FOR EVER DOUBTING... HIM...

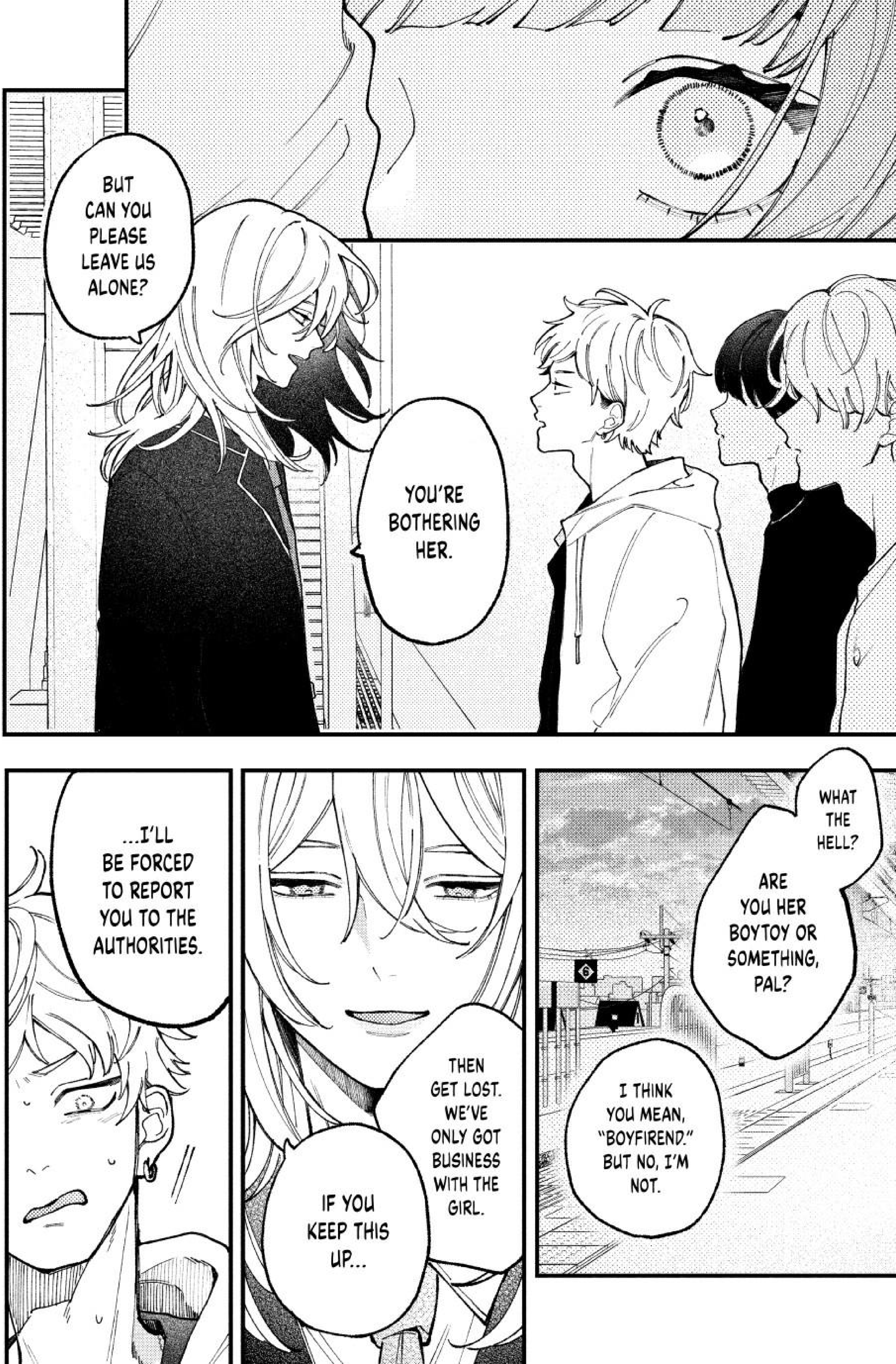

... OH...
I MUST'VE FALLEN ASLEEP.

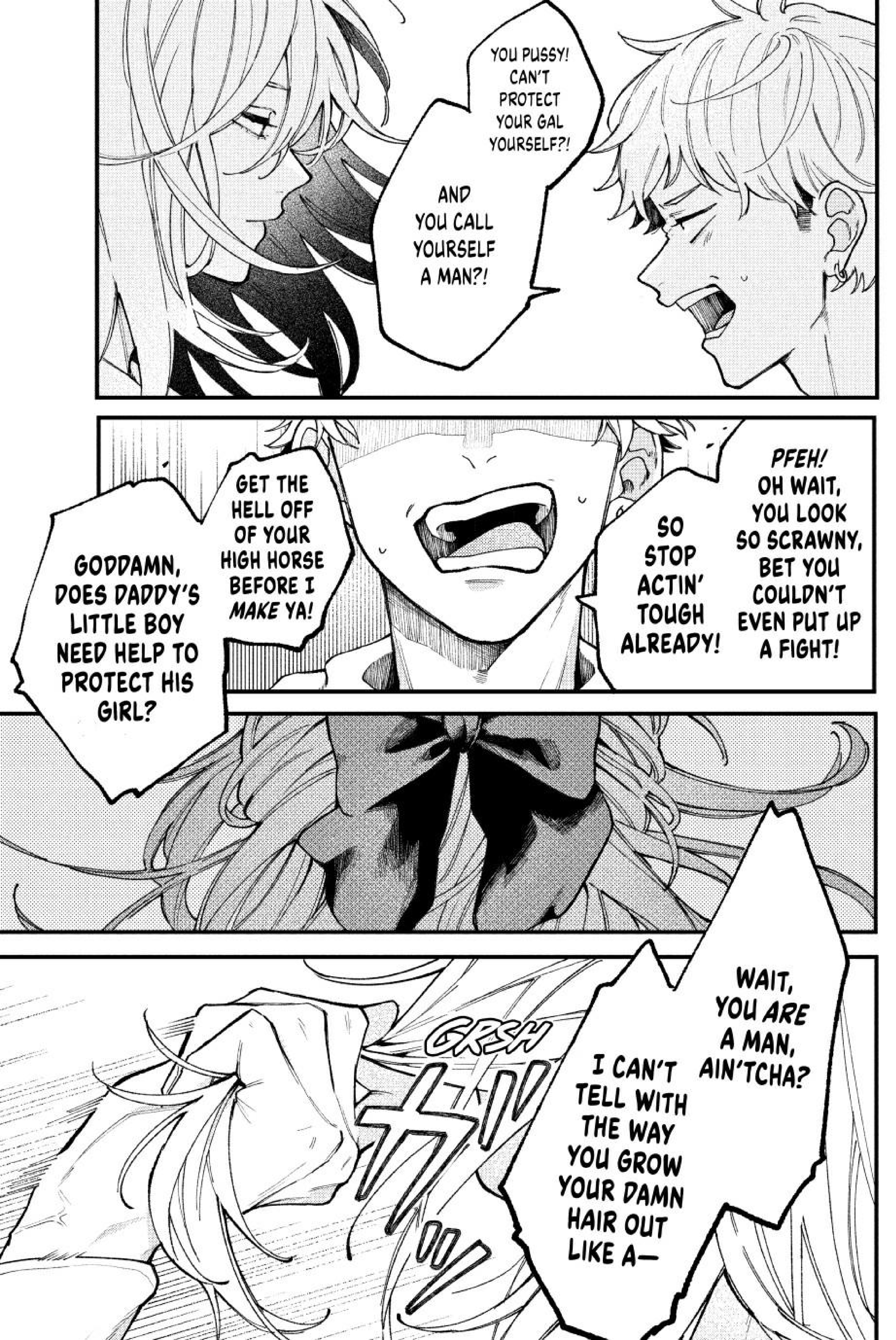

HMM?
AH, YOU'RE AWAKE, KATSURA-SAN.
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
NEVER BETTER!
I'M GLAD TO HEAR IT.
SEEING AS I'M ALREADY HERE, HOW ABOUT I ESCORT YOU TO THE STATION?
THANK YOU.
HE STAYED HERE...
WATCHING OVER ME THE ENTIRE TIME?

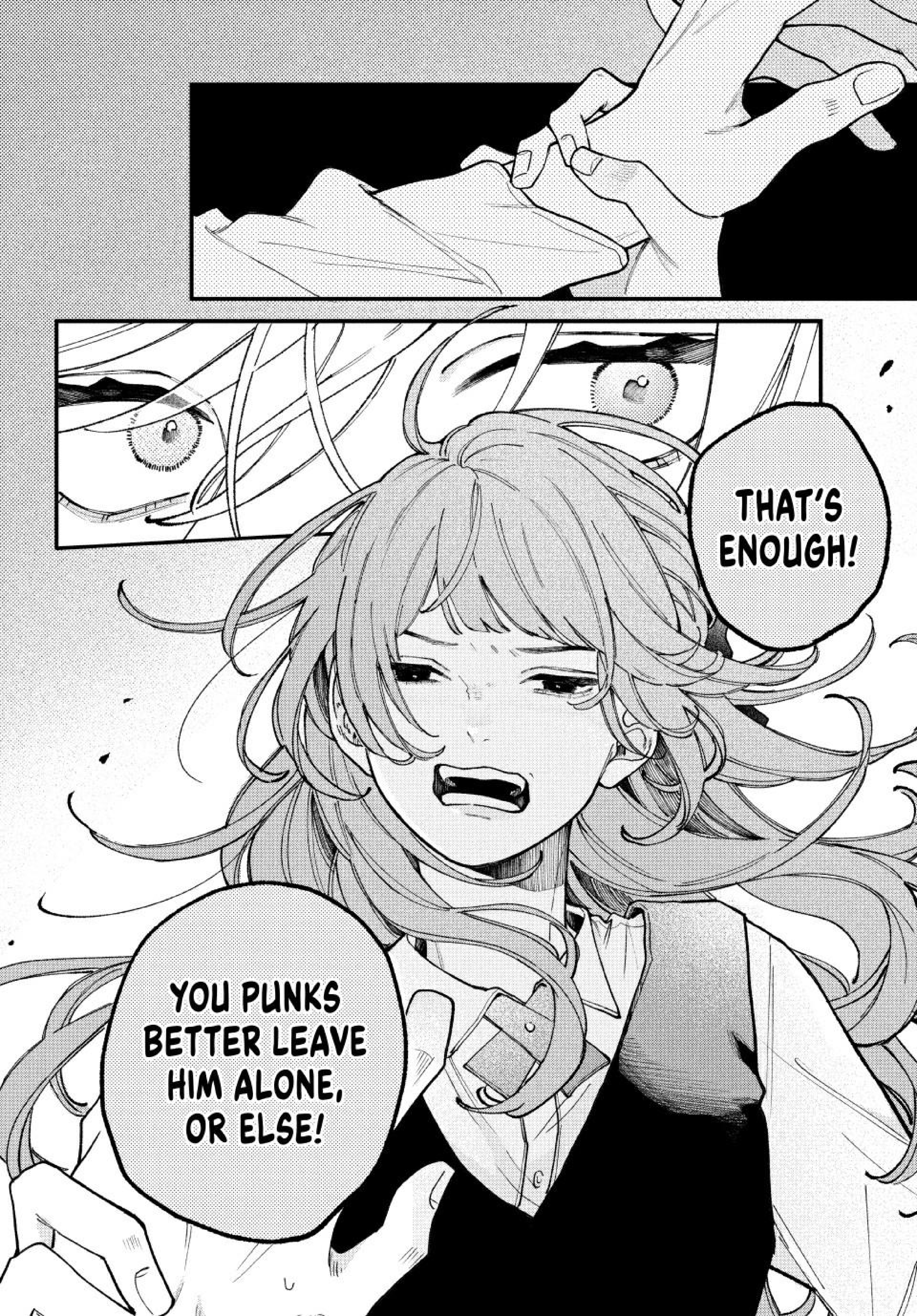

WHICH STATION ARE YOU GOING TO?
AMAKUNI-BASHI.
OH, THAT'S THE STATION BEFORE MINE.
WOW!
I GUESS OUR HOMES ARE ACTUALLY PRETTY CLOSE, THEN.
YEAH, THAT'S FUNNY...
WAIT, DON'T I KNOW YOU?

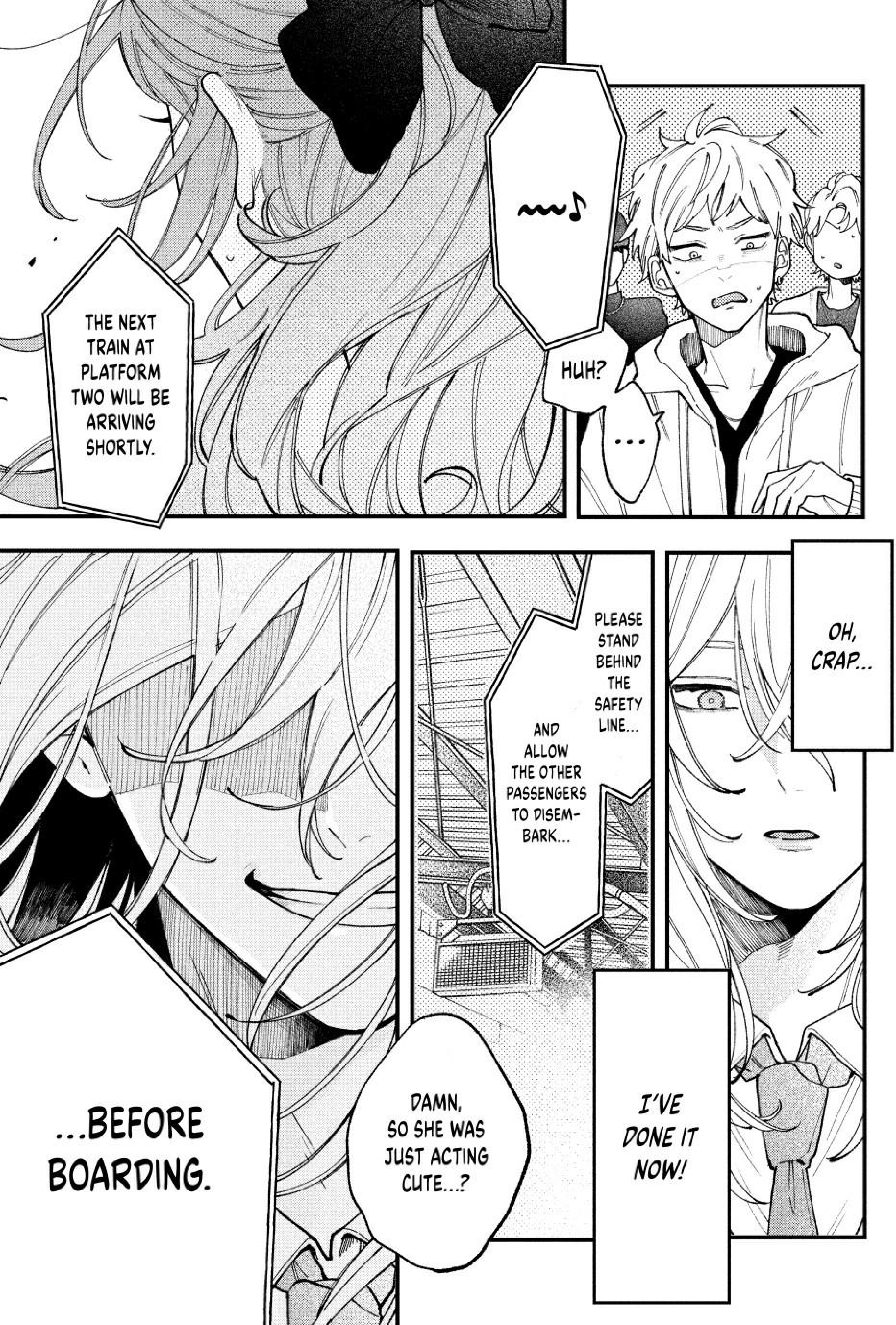

HEY, BABE!
REMEMBER ME?
…
WHO THE HELL IS THIS LOSER?
UMM… I'M SORRY, BUT I THINK YOU'RE MISTAKING ME FOR SOMEONE ELSE.
DUDE, SHE HAD YOU BUSTED RIGHT FROM THE GET-GO!
BA HA HA!
SORRY, GIRLIE. THIS GUY'S DRUNK OFF HIS ASS. I TOLD HIM TO LAY OFF IT, BUT HE JUST WOULDN'T LISTEN.
OH C'MON, BRO…
LOOK AT HER! THIS BABE'S A TOTAL JACKPOT!


WHAT A PAIN IN THE ASS...
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE SO PRETTY! IT'S LIKE SHE'S A BONA FIDE PRINCESS!
I KNOW THAT.
HEY, LET'S CHAT SOMETIME. WHENEVER YOU'RE BORED'S JUST FINE. PASS ME YOUR EMAIL! OR HECK, TELL ME YOUR SOCIALS!
HELL NO.
CAN'T THEY SEE I ALREADY HAVE A GUY WITH ME?
IF ONLY I WERE ALONE RIGHT NOW...
I'D CHASE THEM OFF MYSELF.
Get lost!
As if I'd go out with a loser like you!
BUT I CAN'T LET IKKOKU-KUN SEE THAT SIDE OF ME.
I HAVE TO GET RID OF THEM SOME OTHER WAY...
EXCUSE ME...

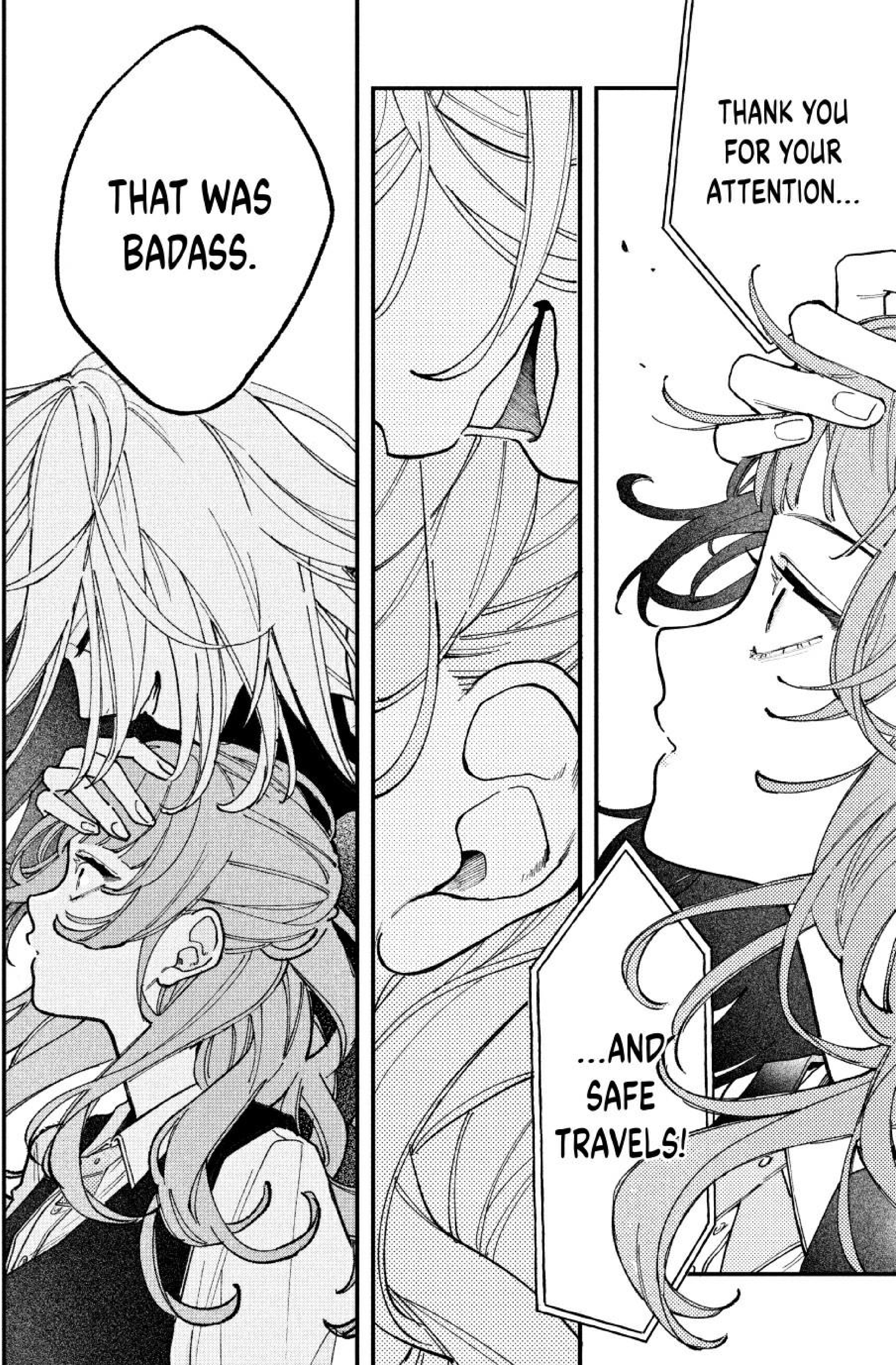

YOU'RE BOTHERING HER.
BUT CAN YOU PLEASE LEAVE US ALONE?
WHAT THE HELL?
ARE YOU HER BOYTOY OR SOMETHING, PAL?
I THINK YOU MEAN, "BOYFIREND." BUT NO, I'M NOT.
THEN GET LOST. WE'VE ONLY GOT BUSINESS WITH THE GIRL.
IF YOU KEEP THIS UP...
...I'LL BE FORCED TO REPORT YOU TO THE AUTHORITIES.

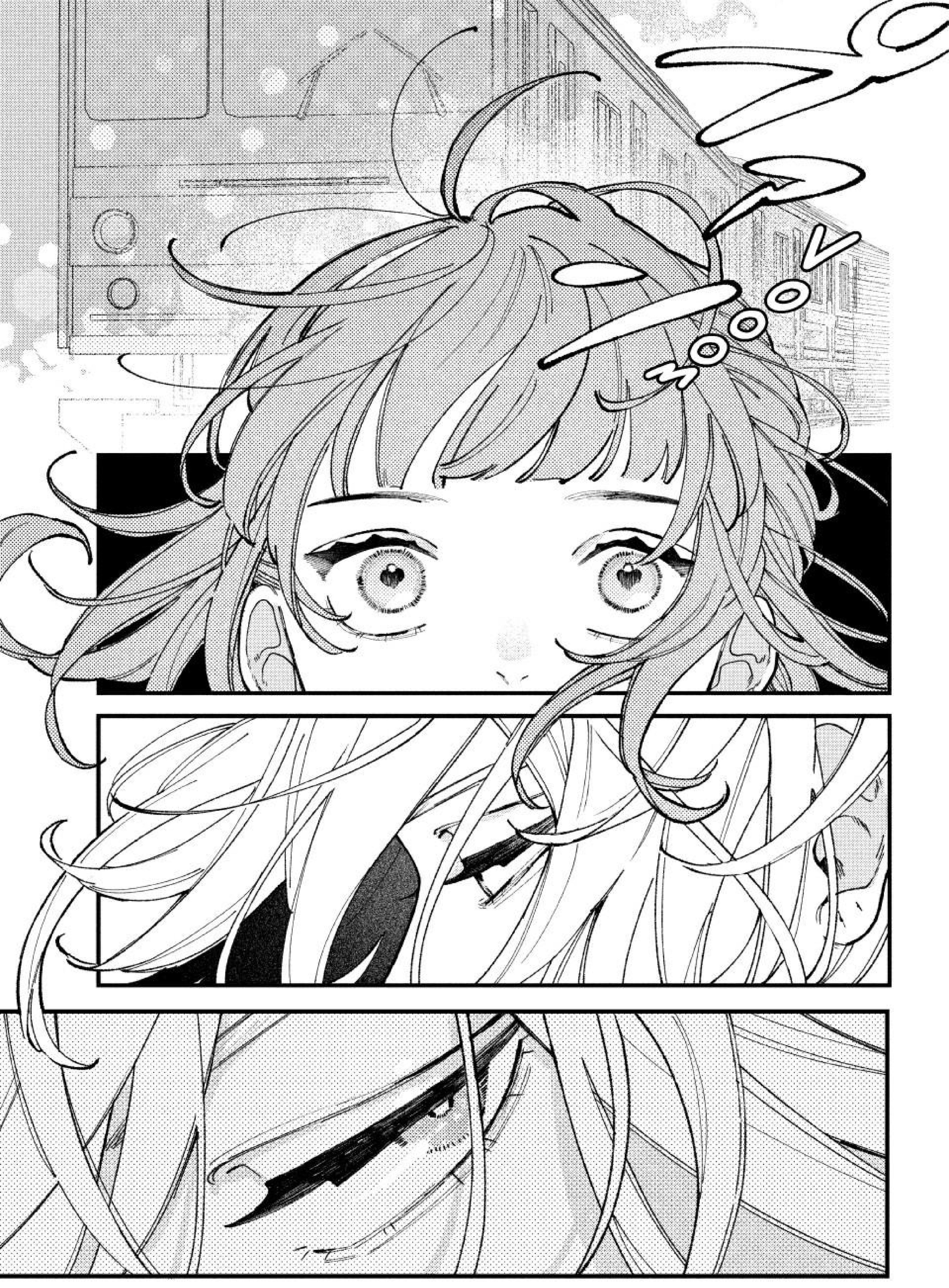

YOU PUSSY! CAN'T PROTECT YOUR GAL YOURSELF?!
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A MAN?!
PFEH! OH WAIT, YOU LOOK SO SCRAWNY, BET YOU COULDN'T EVEN PUT UP A FIGHT!
SO STOP ACTIN' TOUGH ALREADY!
GET THE HELL OFF OF YOUR HIGH HORSE BEFORE I *MAKE* YA!
GODDAMN, DOES DADDY'S LITTLE BOY NEED HELP TO PROTECT HIS GIRL?
WAIT, YOU *ARE* A MAN, AIN'TCHA?
I CAN'T TELL WITH THE WAY YOU GROW YOUR DAMN HAIR OUT LIKE A—
GRSH
ガシッ

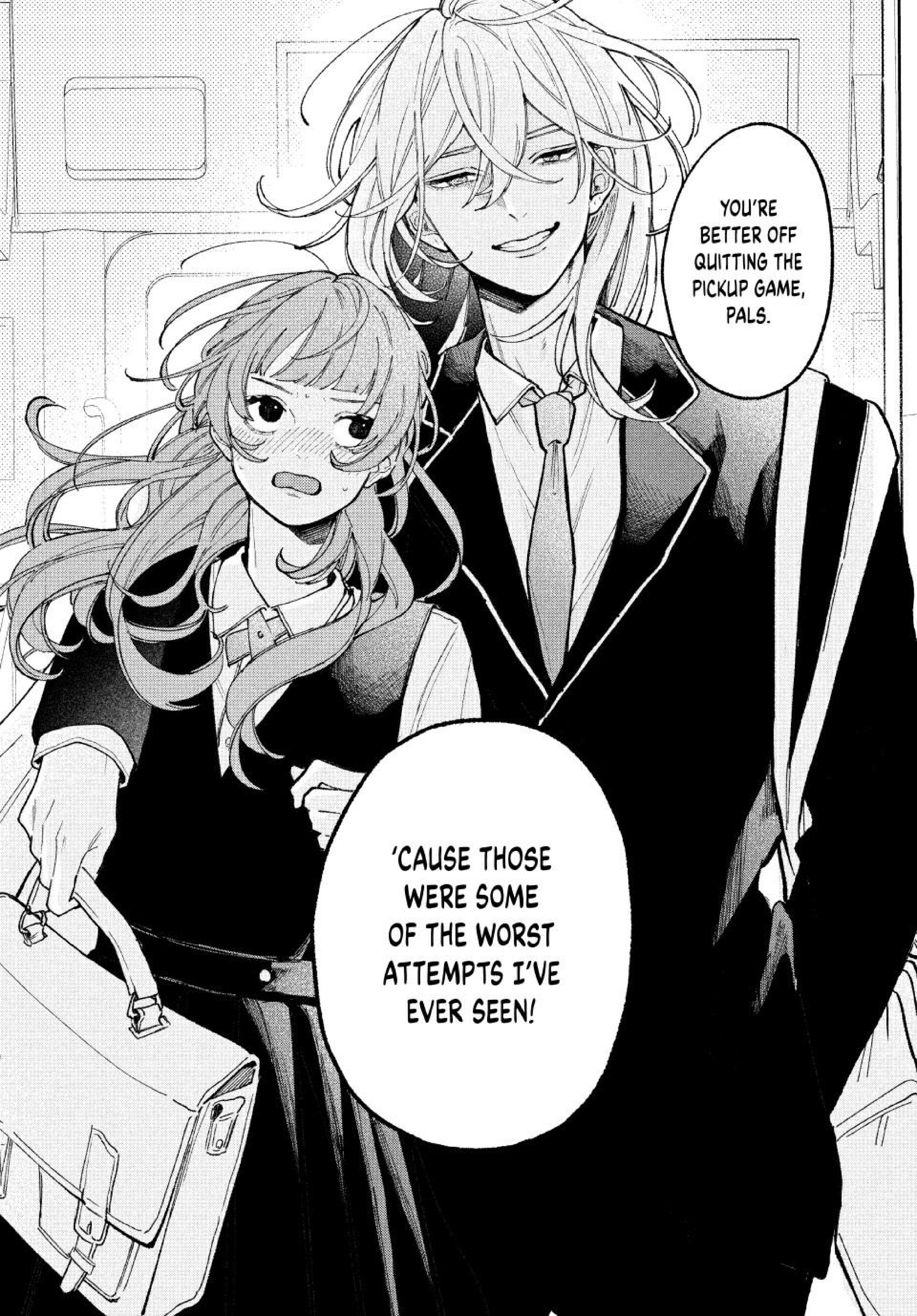

THAT'S ENOUGH!
YOU PUNKS BETTER LEAVE HIM ALONE, OR ELSE!

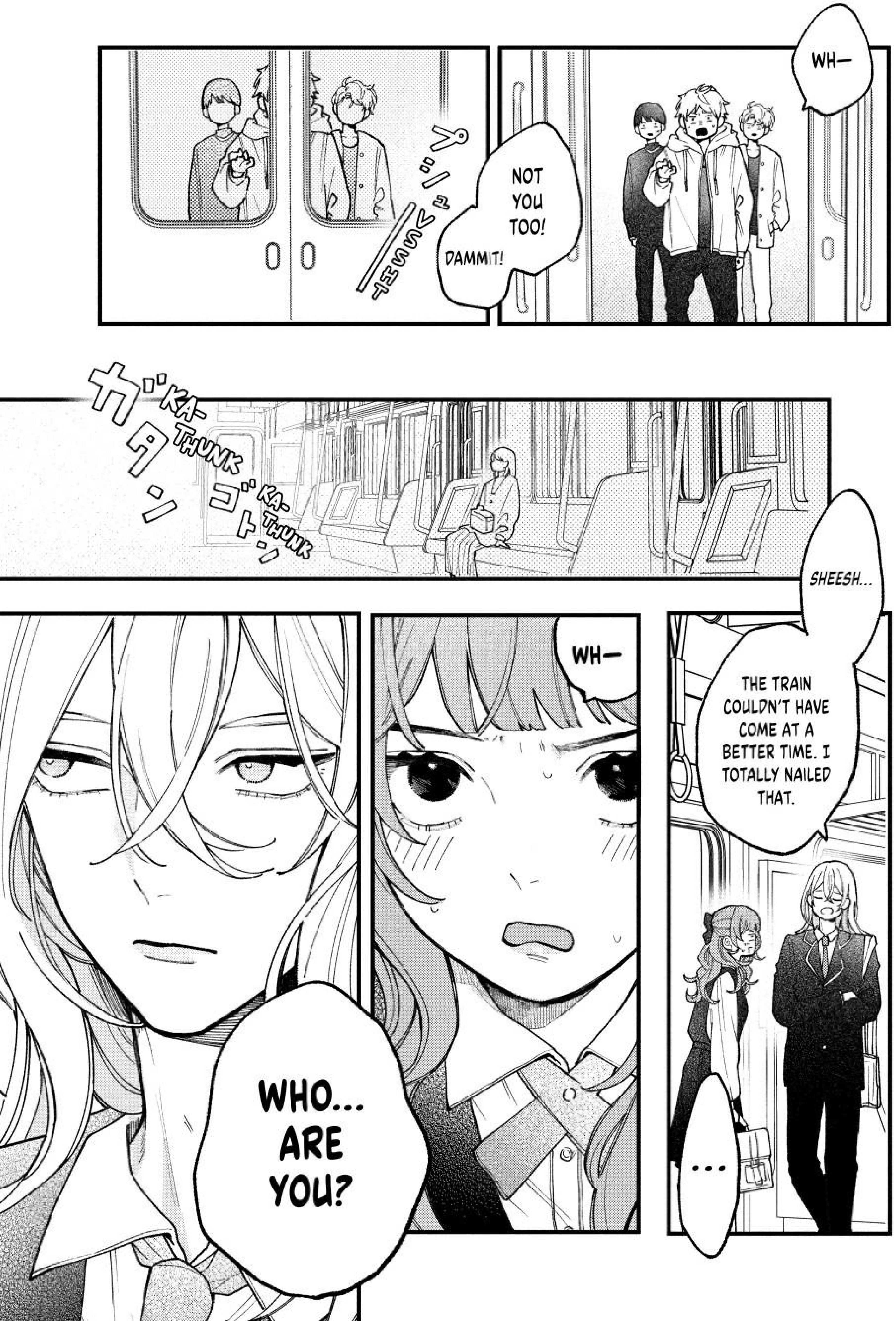


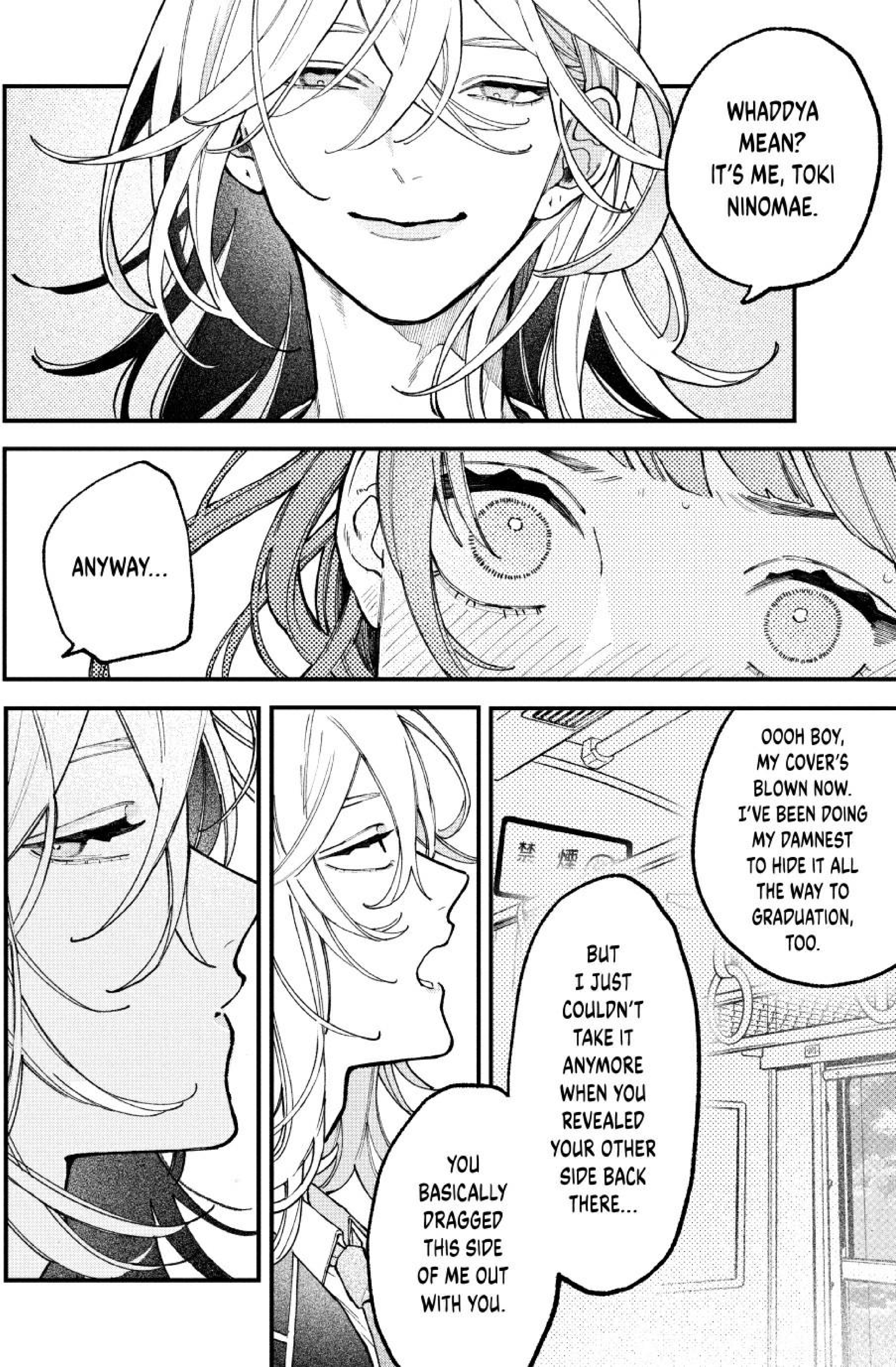
~~~♪
HUH?
...
THE NEXT TRAIN AT PLATFORM TWO WILL BE ARRIVING SHORTLY.
OH, CRAP...
I'VE DONE IT NOW!
PLEASE STAND BEHIND THE SAFETY LINE...
AND ALLOW THE OTHER PASSENGERS TO DISEMBARK...
DAMN, SO SHE WAS JUST ACTING CUTE...?
...BEFORE BOARDING.
~~~

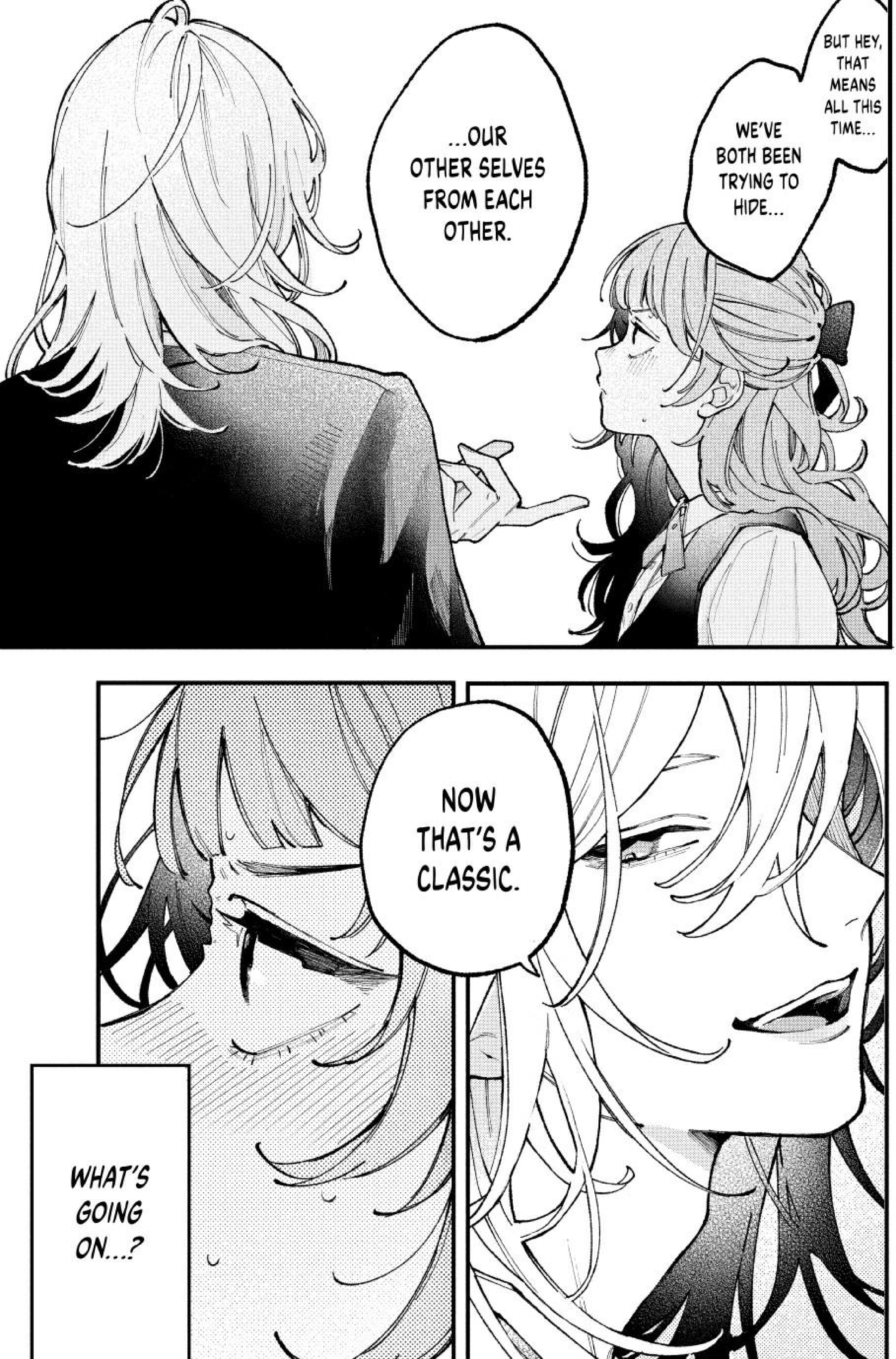

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION...
...AND SAFE TRAVELS!
THAT WAS BADASS.

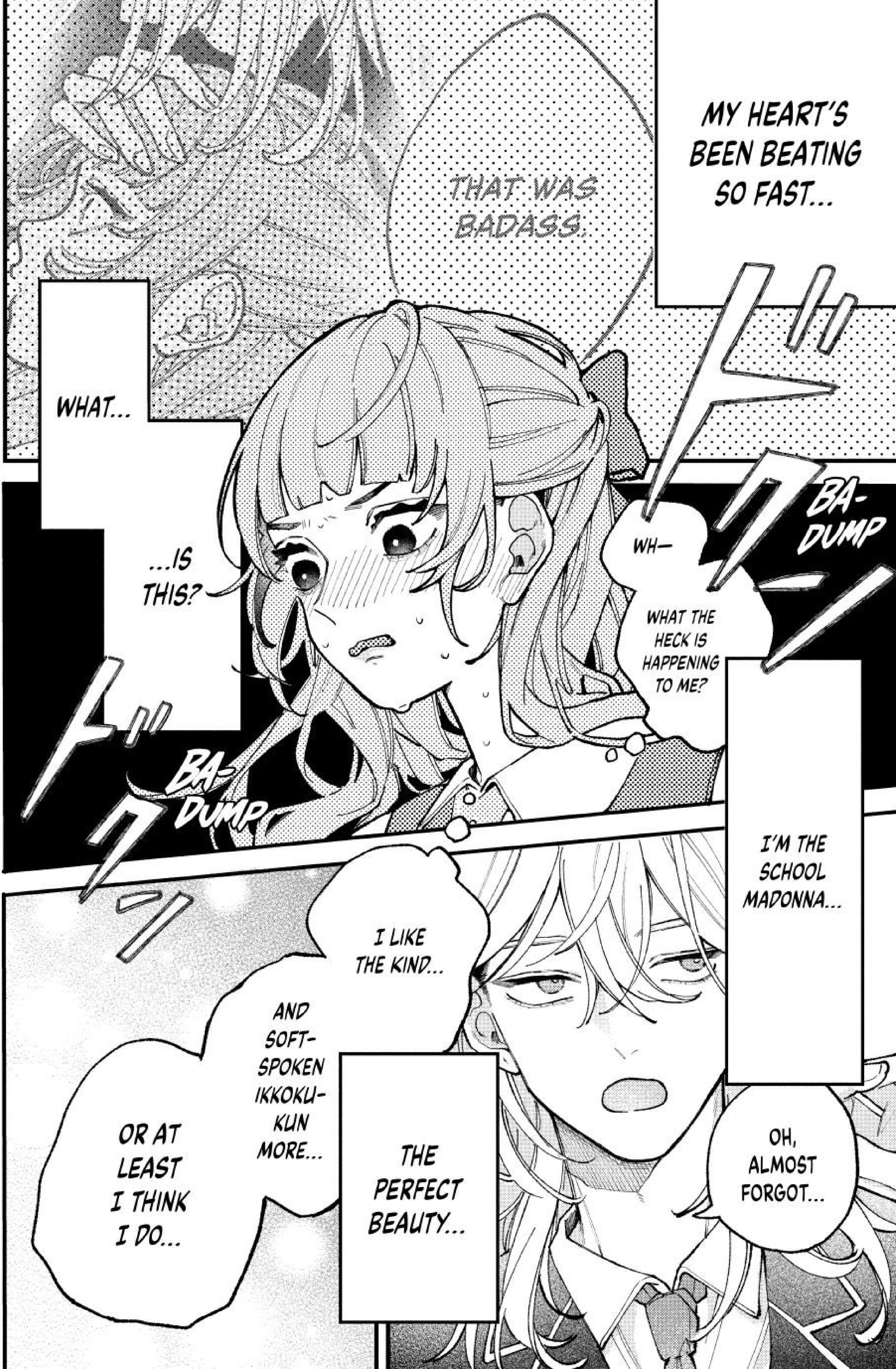

VOOOM

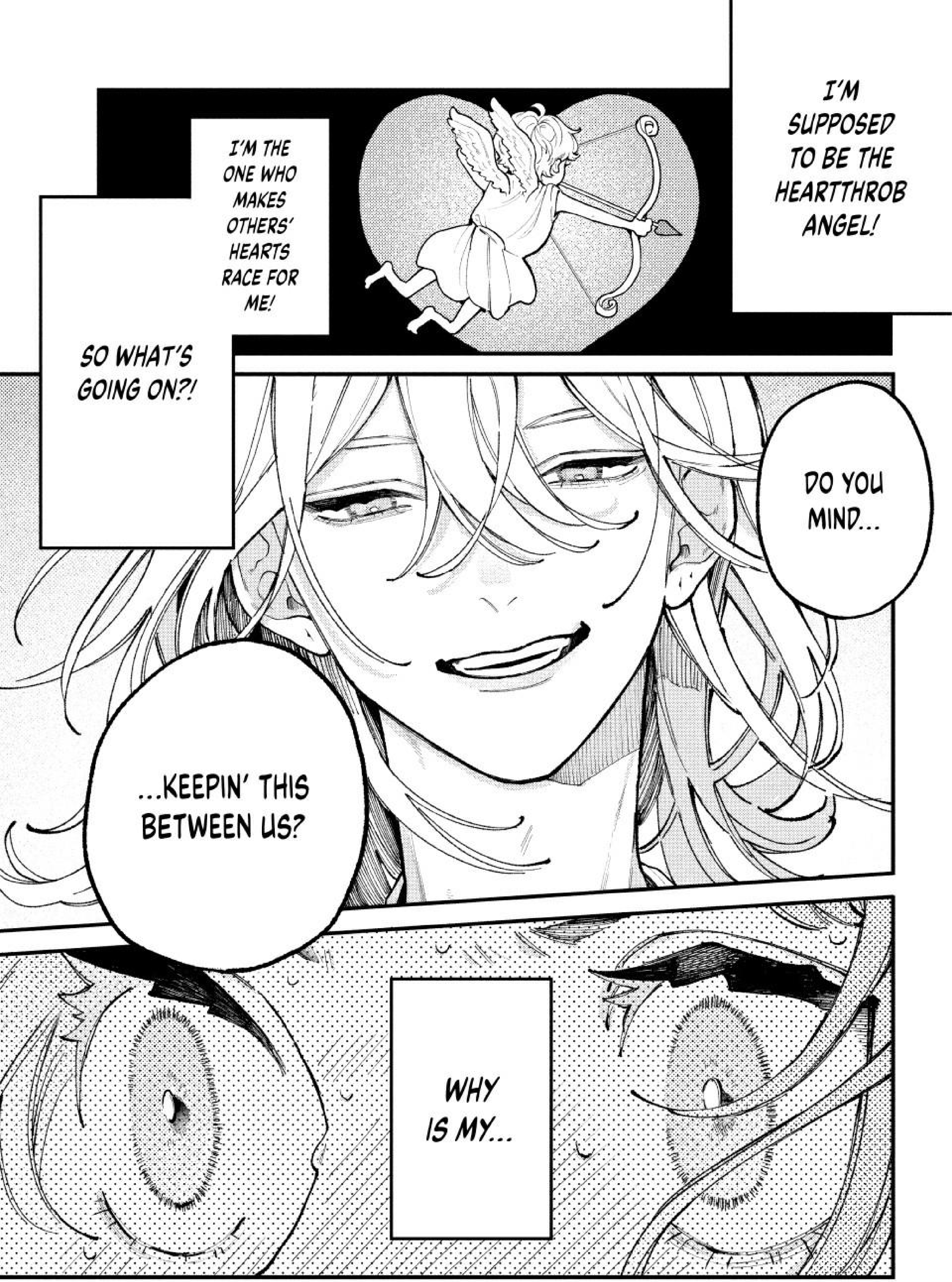

YOU'RE BETTER OFF QUITTING THE PICKUP GAME, PALS.
'CAUSE THOSE WERE SOME OF THE WORST ATTEMPTS I'VE EVER SEEN!

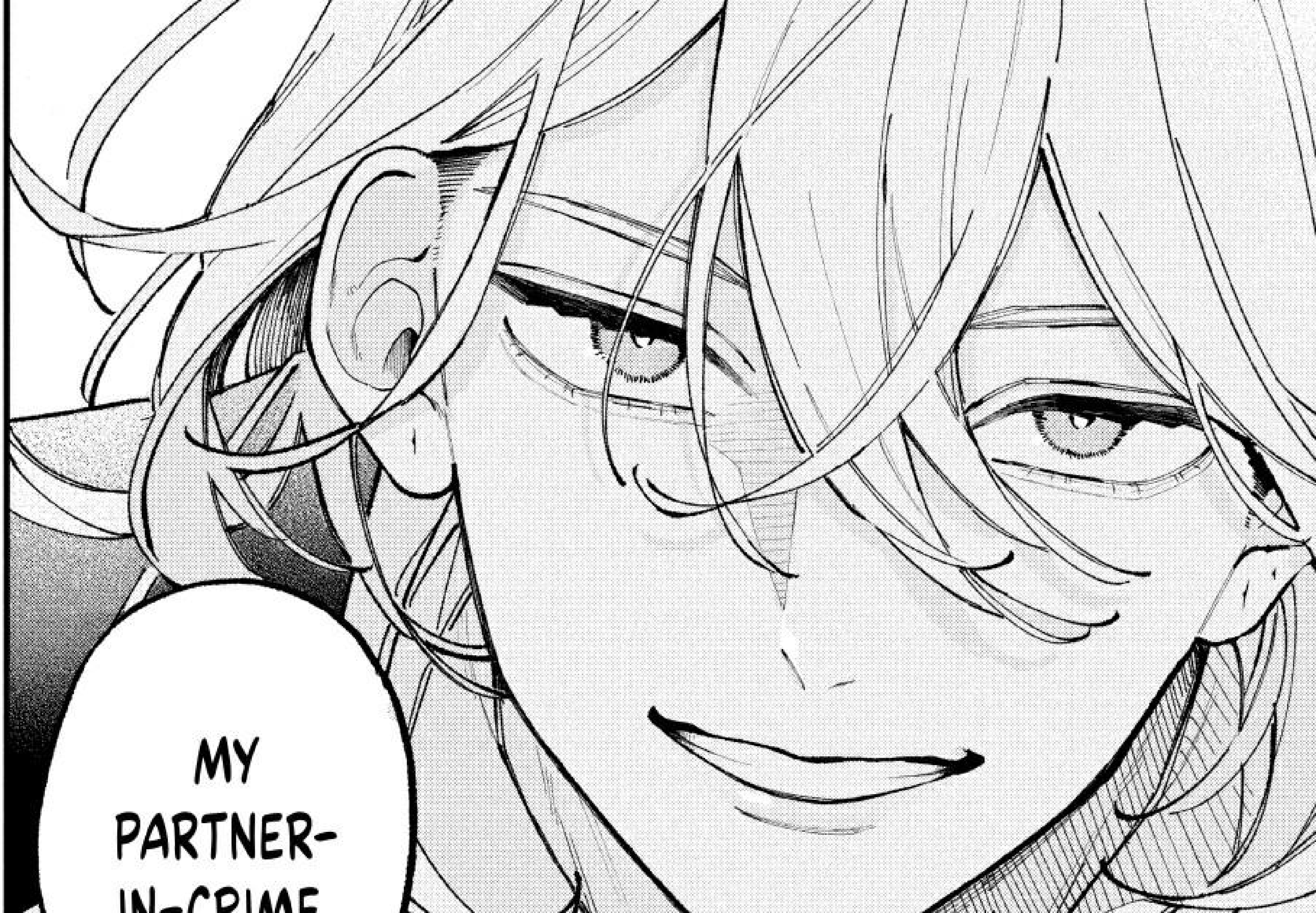

WH—
NOT YOU TOO!
DAMMIT!
プシュー
FSSSH—
ガタン
KA-THUNK
ゴトン
KA-THUNK
SHEESH...
THE TRAIN COULDN'T HAVE COME AT A BETTER TIME. I TOTALLY NAILED THAT.
...
WH—
WHO... ARE YOU?

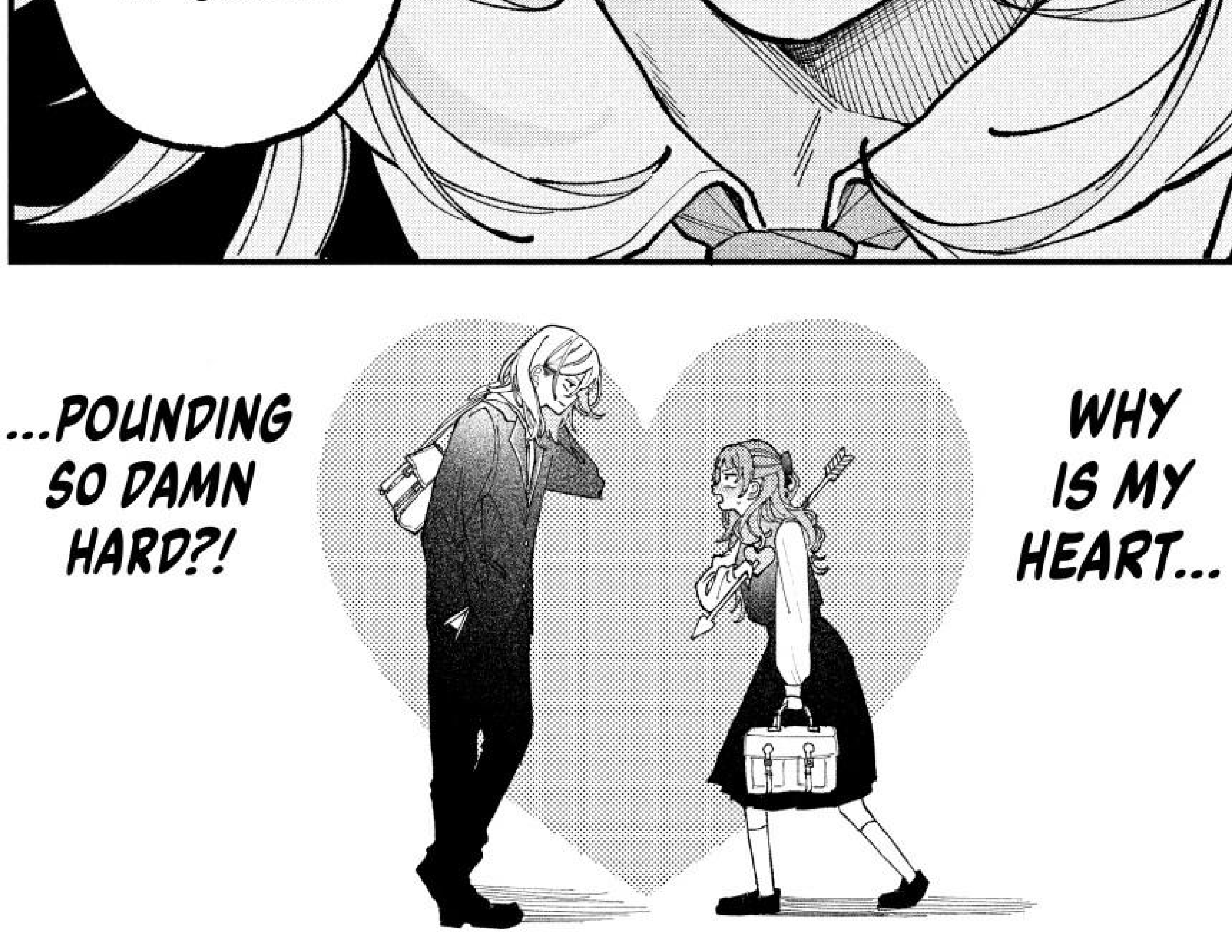

WHADDYA MEAN? IT'S ME, TOKI NINOMAE.
ANYWAY...
OOOH BOY, MY COVER'S BLOWN NOW. I'VE BEEN DOING MY DAMNEST TO HIDE IT ALL THE WAY TO GRADUATION, TOO.
禁煙
BUT I JUST COULDN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE WHEN YOU REVEALED YOUR OTHER SIDE BACK THERE...
YOU BASICALLY DRAGGED THIS SIDE OF ME OUT WITH YOU.

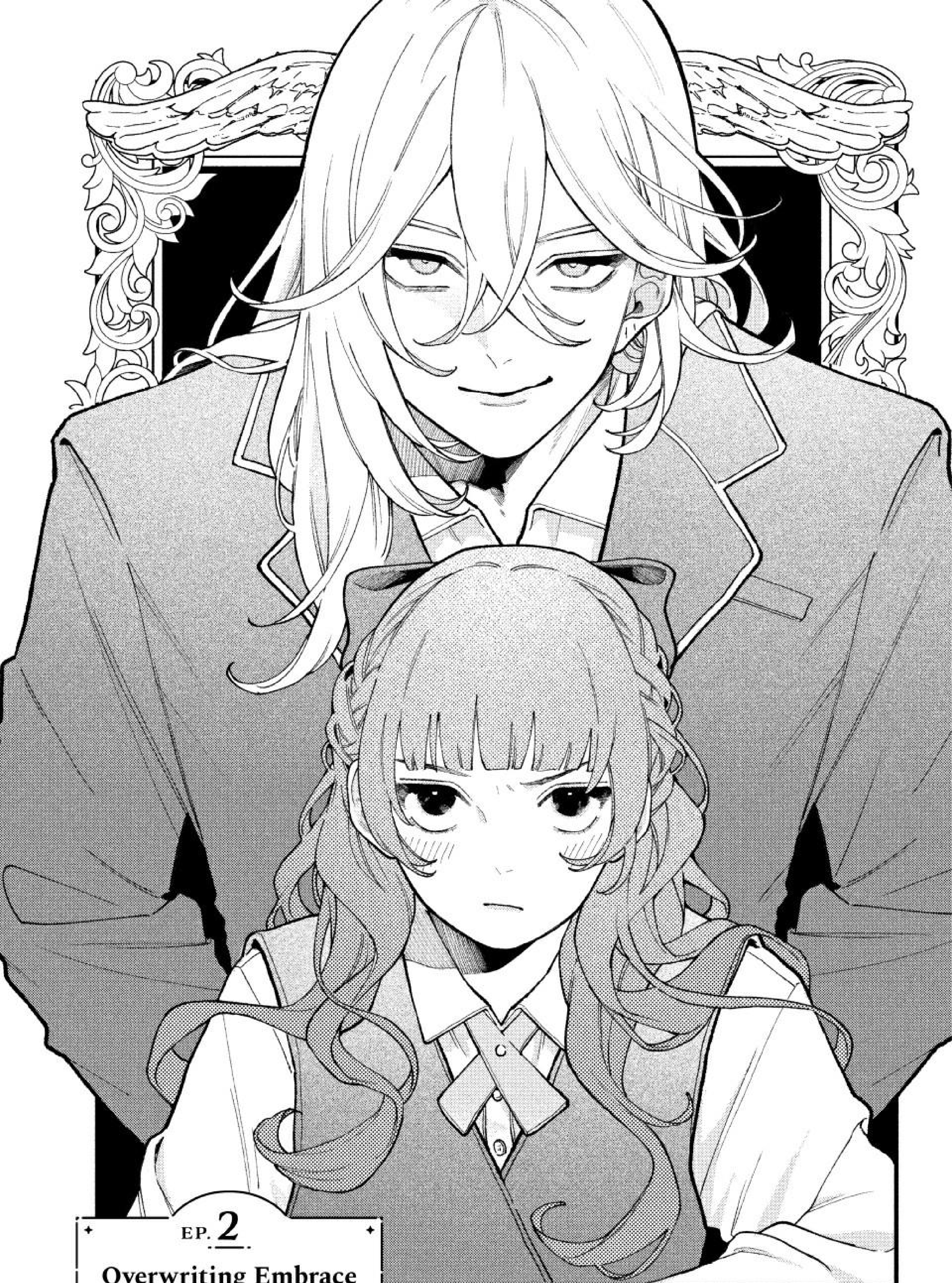

BUT HEY, THAT MEANS ALL THIS TIME...
WE'VE BOTH BEEN TRYING TO HIDE...
...OUR OTHER SELVES FROM EACH OTHER.
NOW THAT'S A CLASSIC.
WHAT'S GOING ON...?


MY HEART'S BEEN BEATING SO FAST...
THAT WAS BADASS.
WHAT... ...IS THIS?
ドクン
BA-DUMP
WH—
WHAT THE HECK IS HAPPENING TO ME?
ドクン
BA-DUMP
I'M THE SCHOOL MADONNA...
THE PERFECT BEAUTY...
OH, ALMOST FORGOT...
I LIKE THE KIND...
AND SOFT-SPOKEN IKKOKU-KUN MORE...
OR AT LEAST I THINK I DO...


I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THE HEARTTHROB ANGEL!
I'M THE ONE WHO MAKES OTHERS' HEARTS RACE FOR ME!
SO WHAT'S GOING ON?!
DO YOU MIND...
...KEEPIN' THIS BETWEEN US?
WHY IS MY...


MY PARTNER-IN-CRIME.

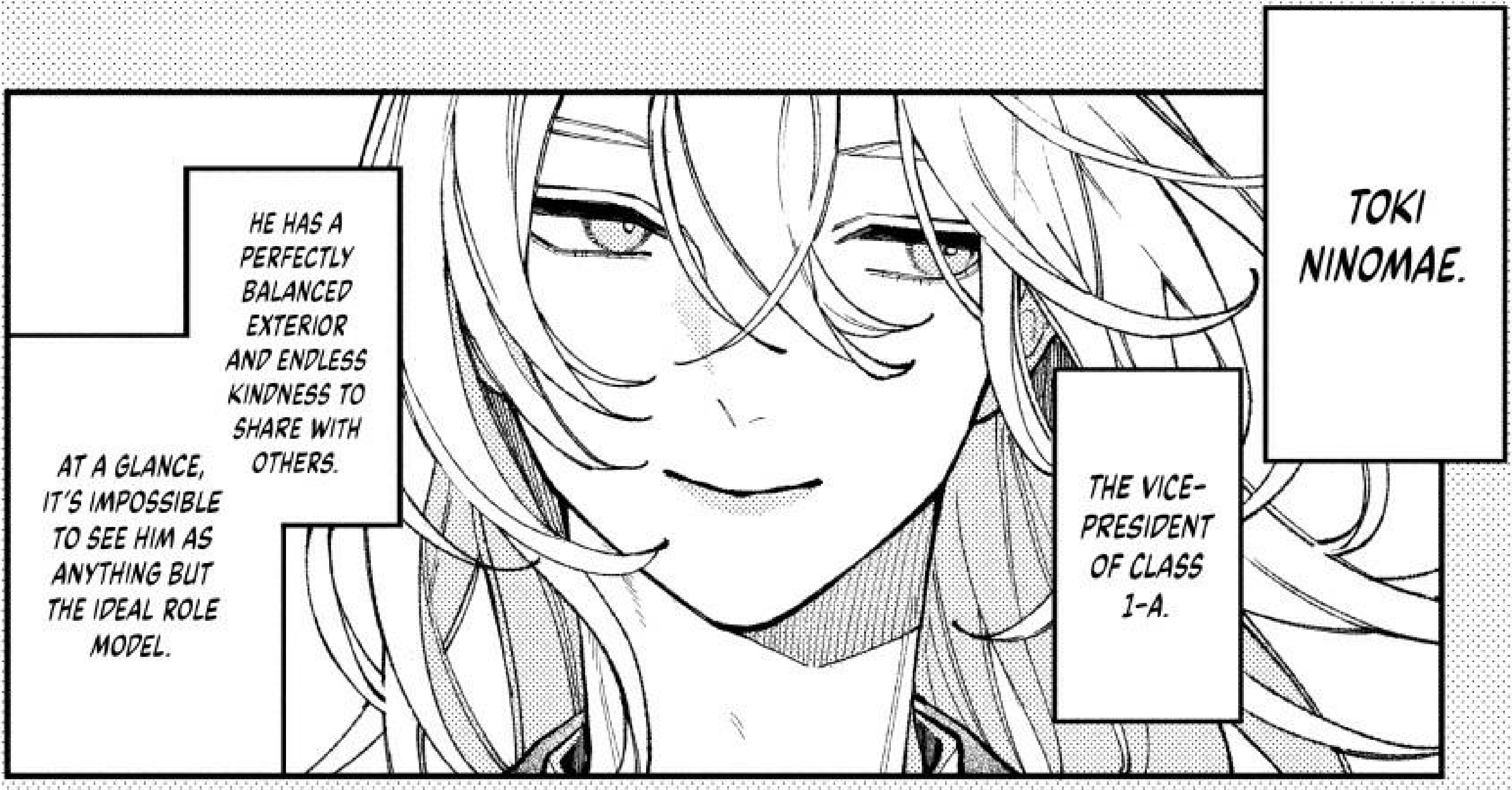

WHY IS MY HEART...
...POUNDING SO DAMN HARD?!

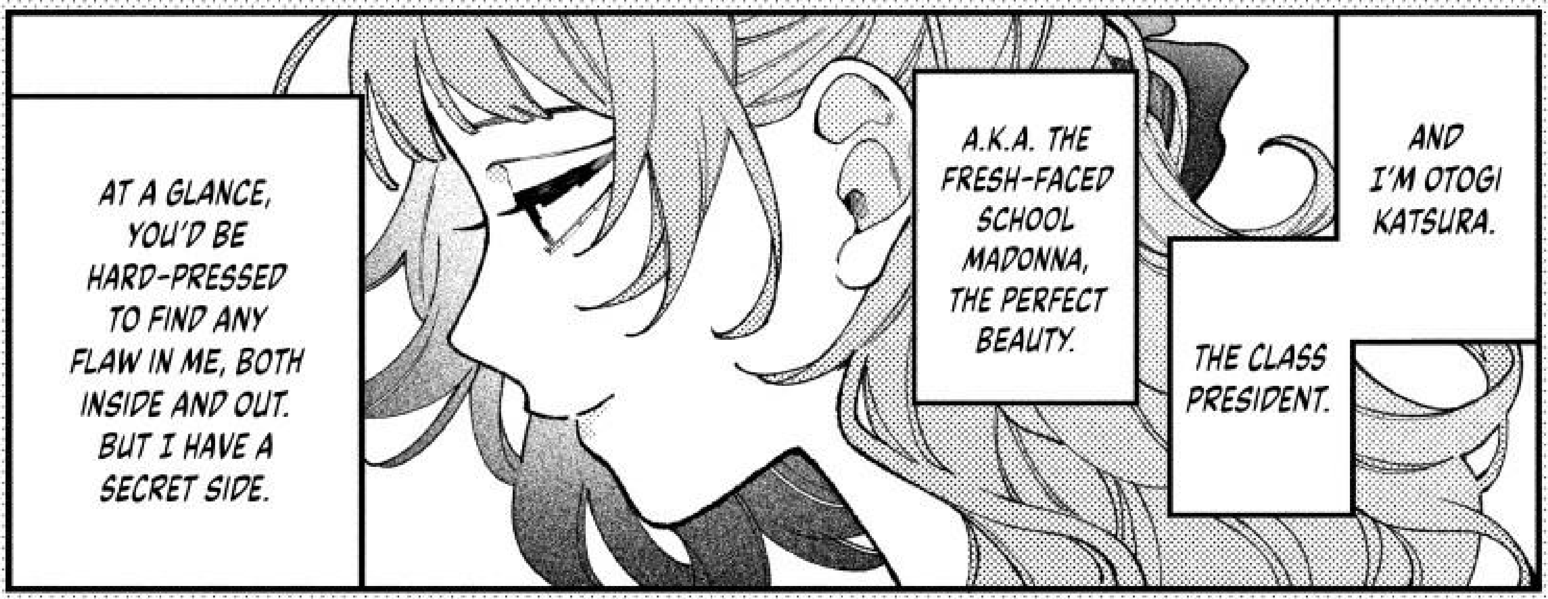


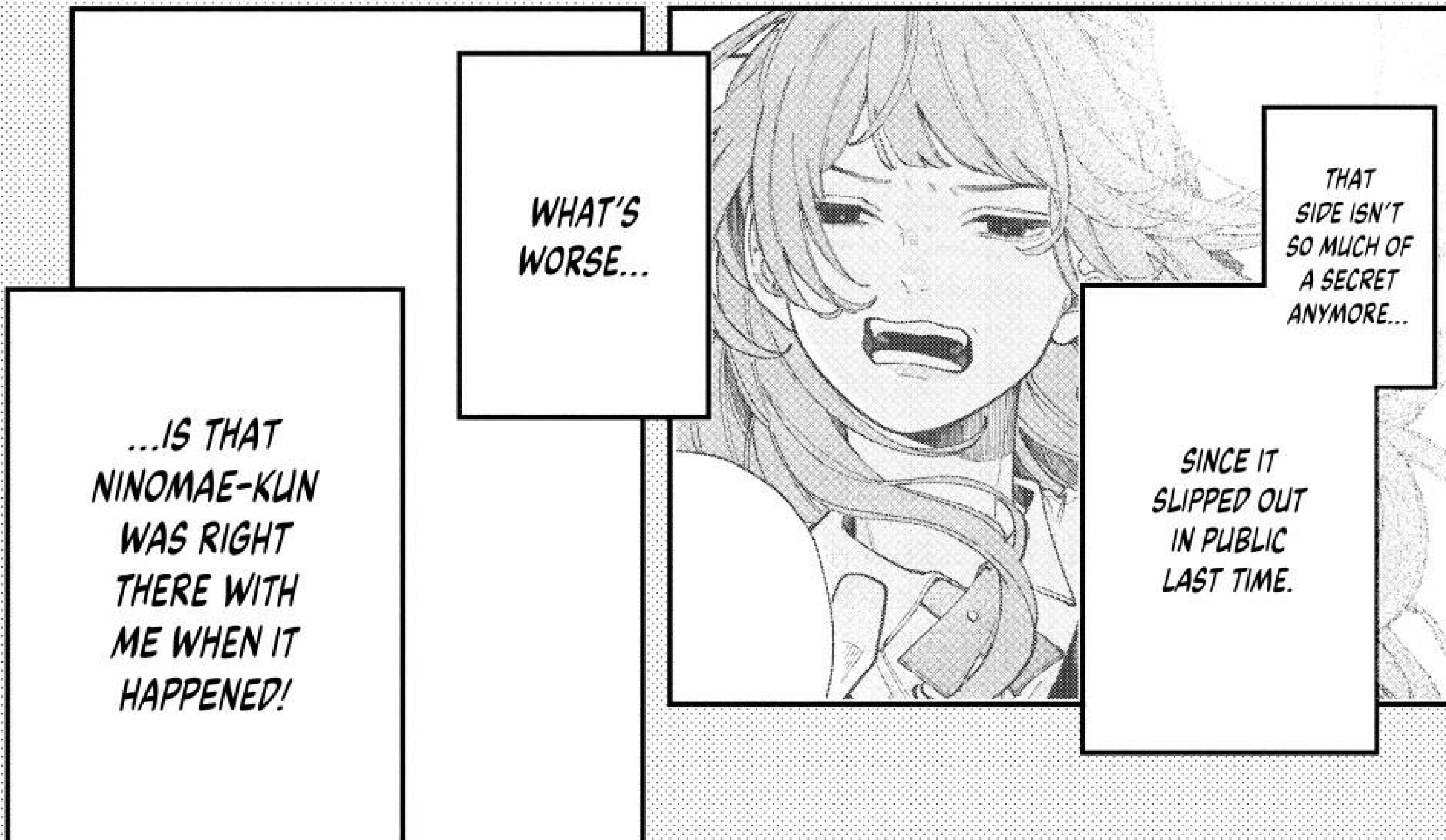
EP. 2

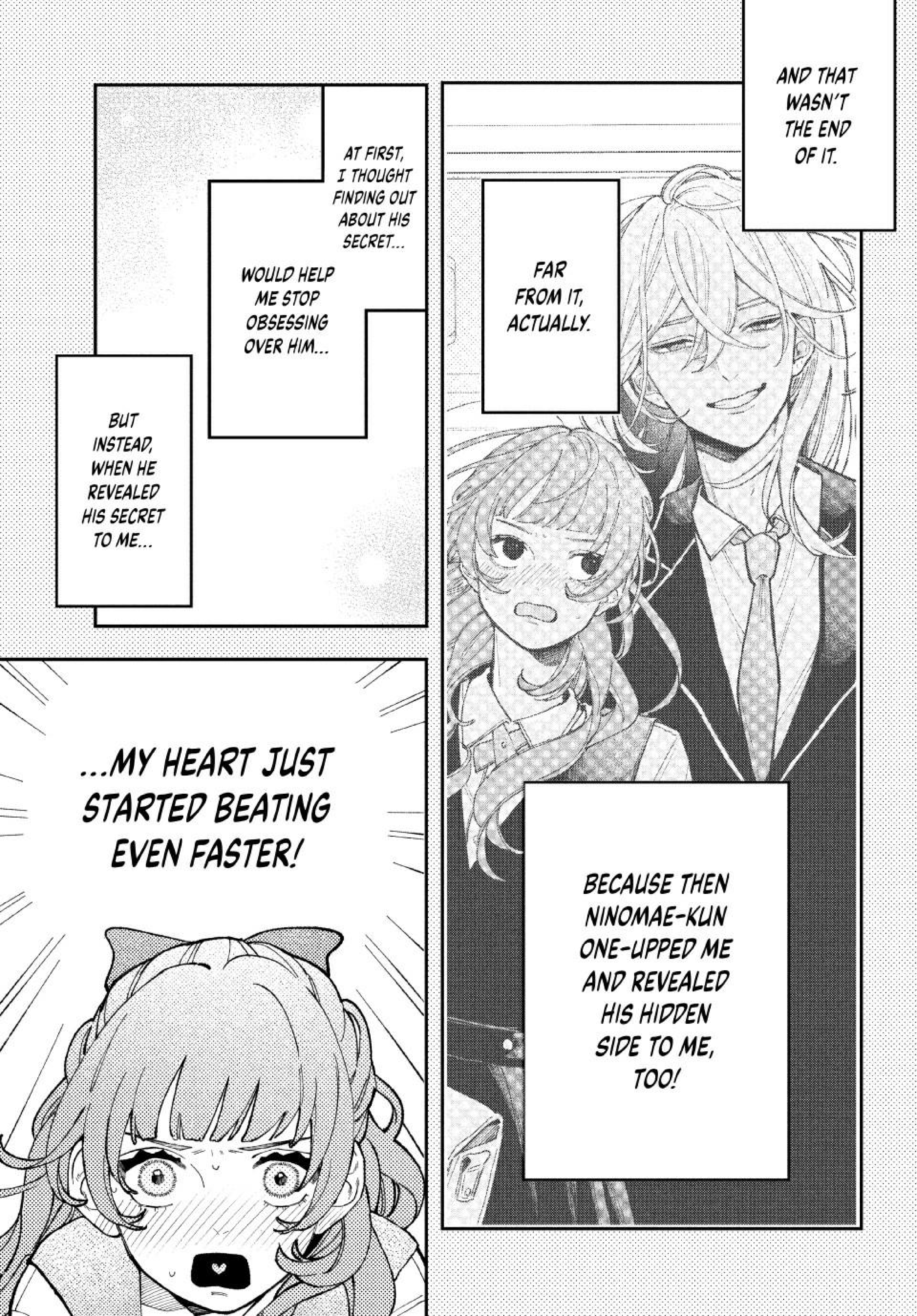
Overwriting Embrace

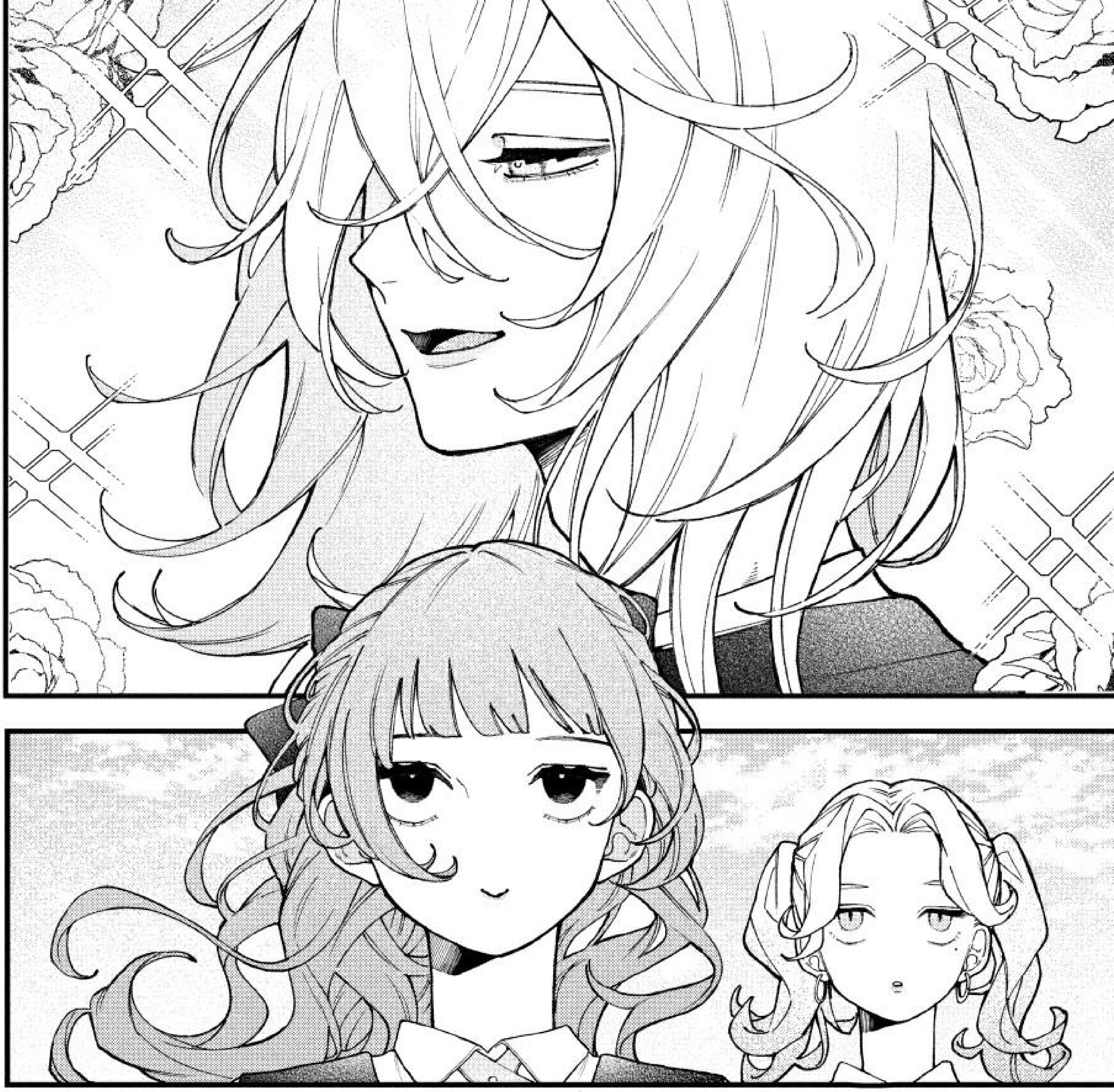
FALL IN LOVE, YOU FALSE ANGELS


TOKI NINOMAE.
THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF CLASS 1-A.
HE HAS A PERFECTLY BALANCED EXTERIOR AND ENDLESS KINDNESS TO SHARE WITH OTHERS.
AT A GLANCE, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO SEE HIM AS ANYTHING BUT THE IDEAL ROLE MODEL.

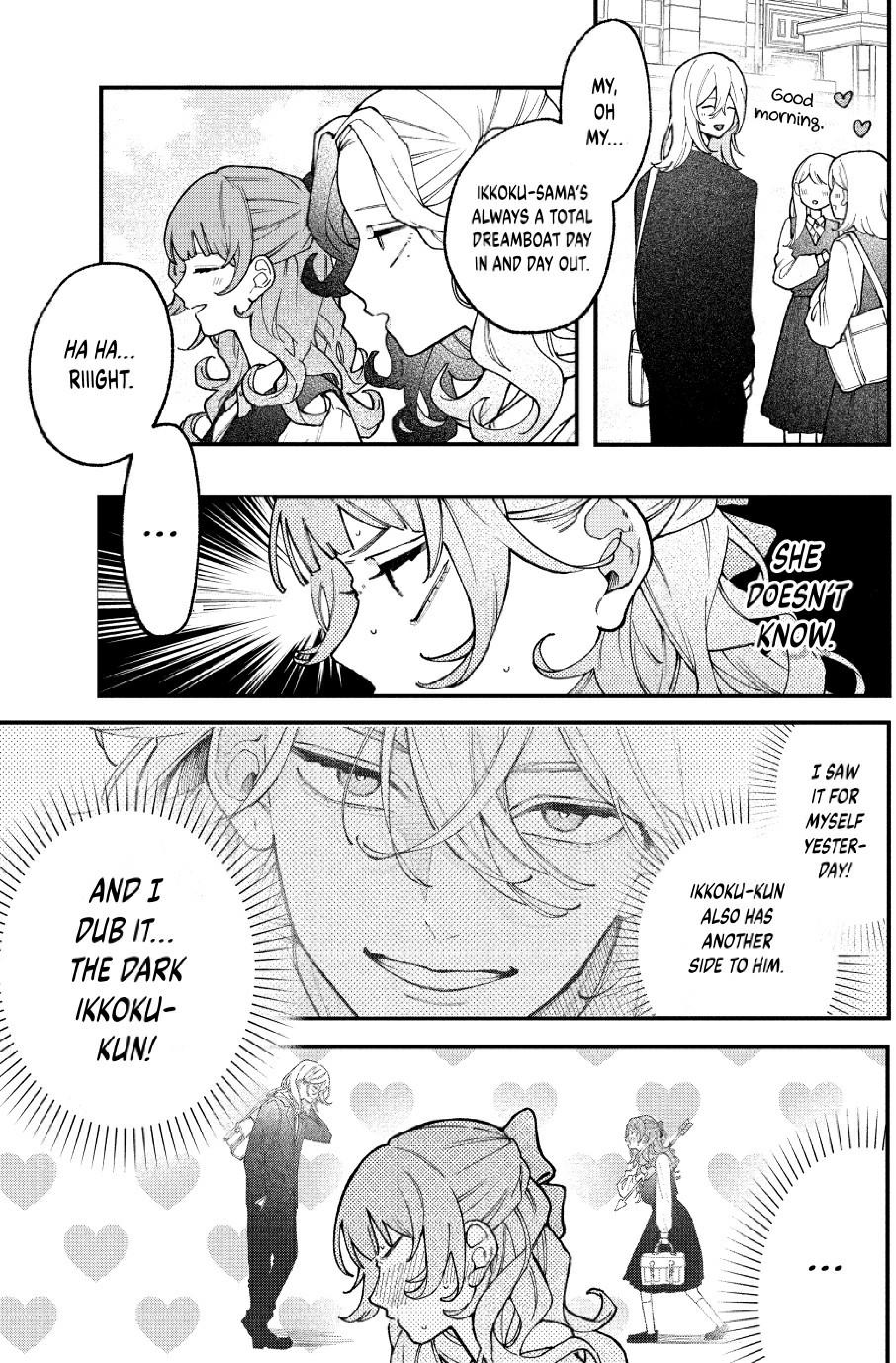

AND I'M OTOGI KATSURA.
THE CLASS PRESIDENT.
A.K.A. THE FRESH-FACED SCHOOL MADONNA, THE PERFECT BEAUTY.
AT A GLANCE, YOU'D BE HARD-PRESSED TO FIND ANY FLAW IN ME, BOTH INSIDE AND OUT. BUT I HAVE A SECRET SIDE.

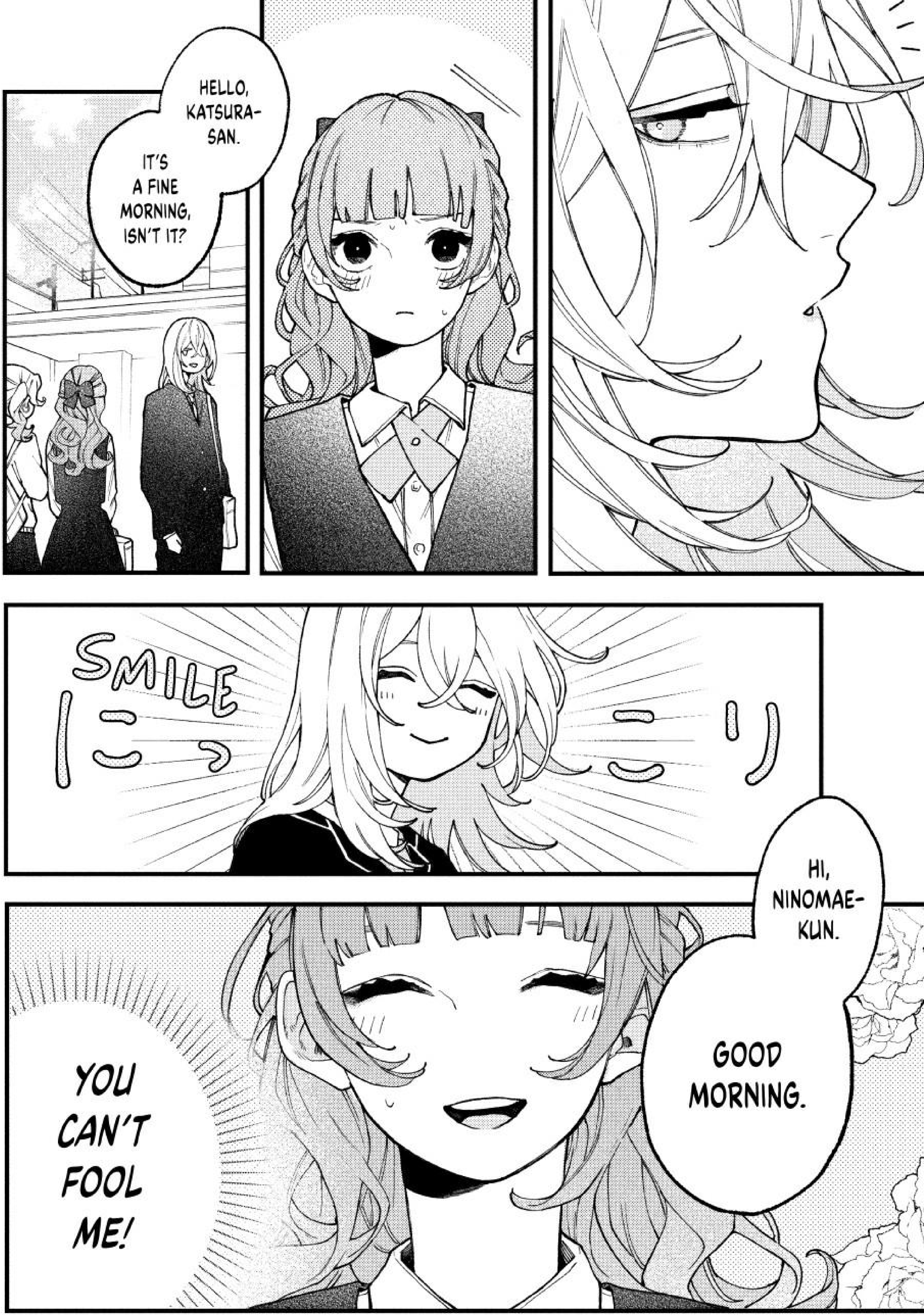

THAT SIDE ISN'T SO MUCH OF A SECRET ANYMORE...
SINCE IT SLIPPED OUT IN PUBLIC LAST TIME.
WHAT'S WORSE...
...IS THAT NINOMAE-KUN WAS RIGHT THERE WITH ME WHEN IT HAPPENED!

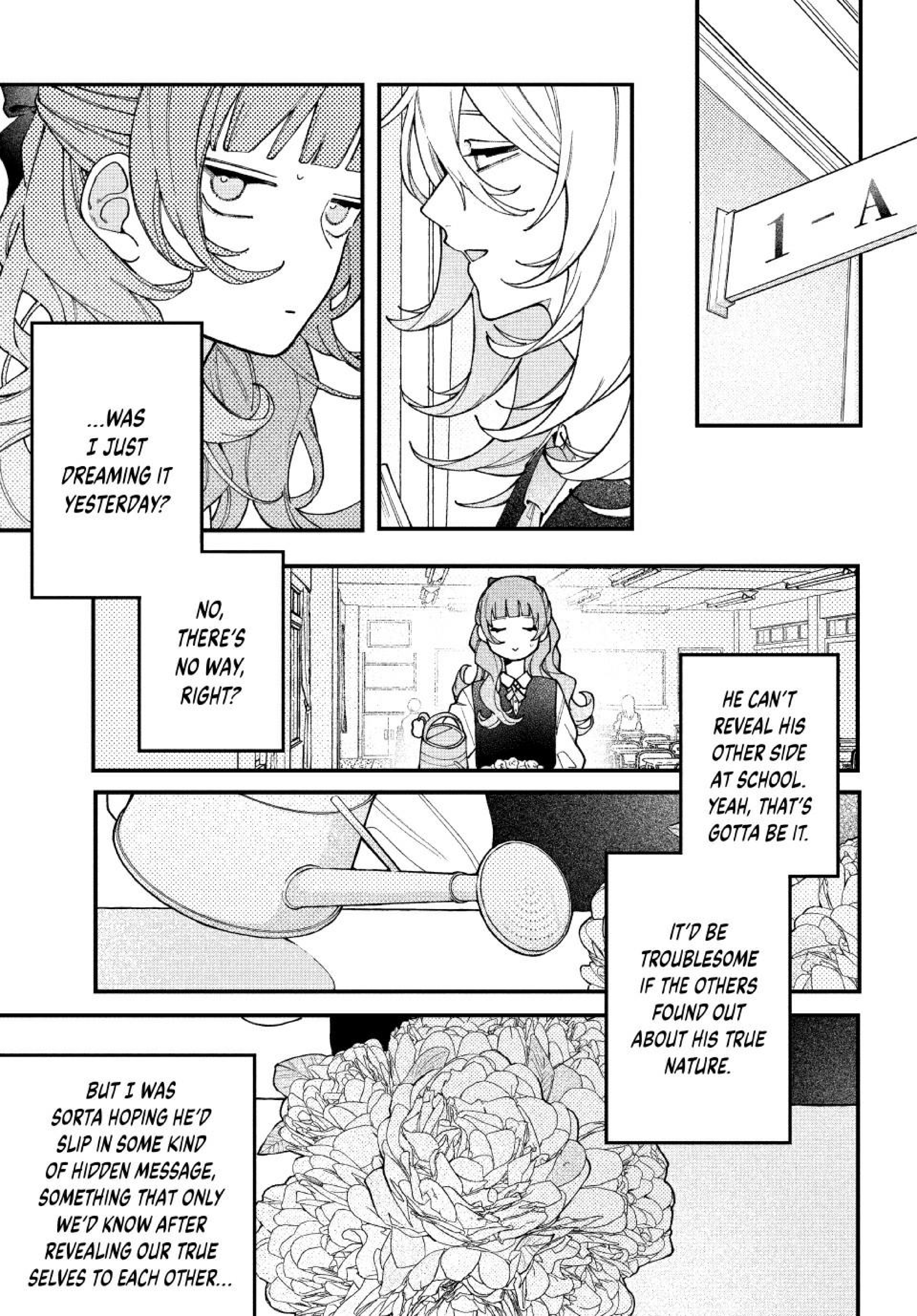

AT FIRST, I THOUGHT FINDING OUT ABOUT HIS SECRET...
WOULD HELP ME STOP OBSESSING OVER HIM...
BUT INSTEAD, WHEN HE REVEALED HIS SECRET TO ME...
...MY HEART JUST STARTED BEATING EVEN FASTER!
AND THAT WASN'T THE END OF IT.
FAR FROM IT, ACTUALLY.
BECAUSE THEN NINOMAE-KUN ONE-UPPED ME AND REVEALED HIS HIDDEN SIDE TO ME, TOO!

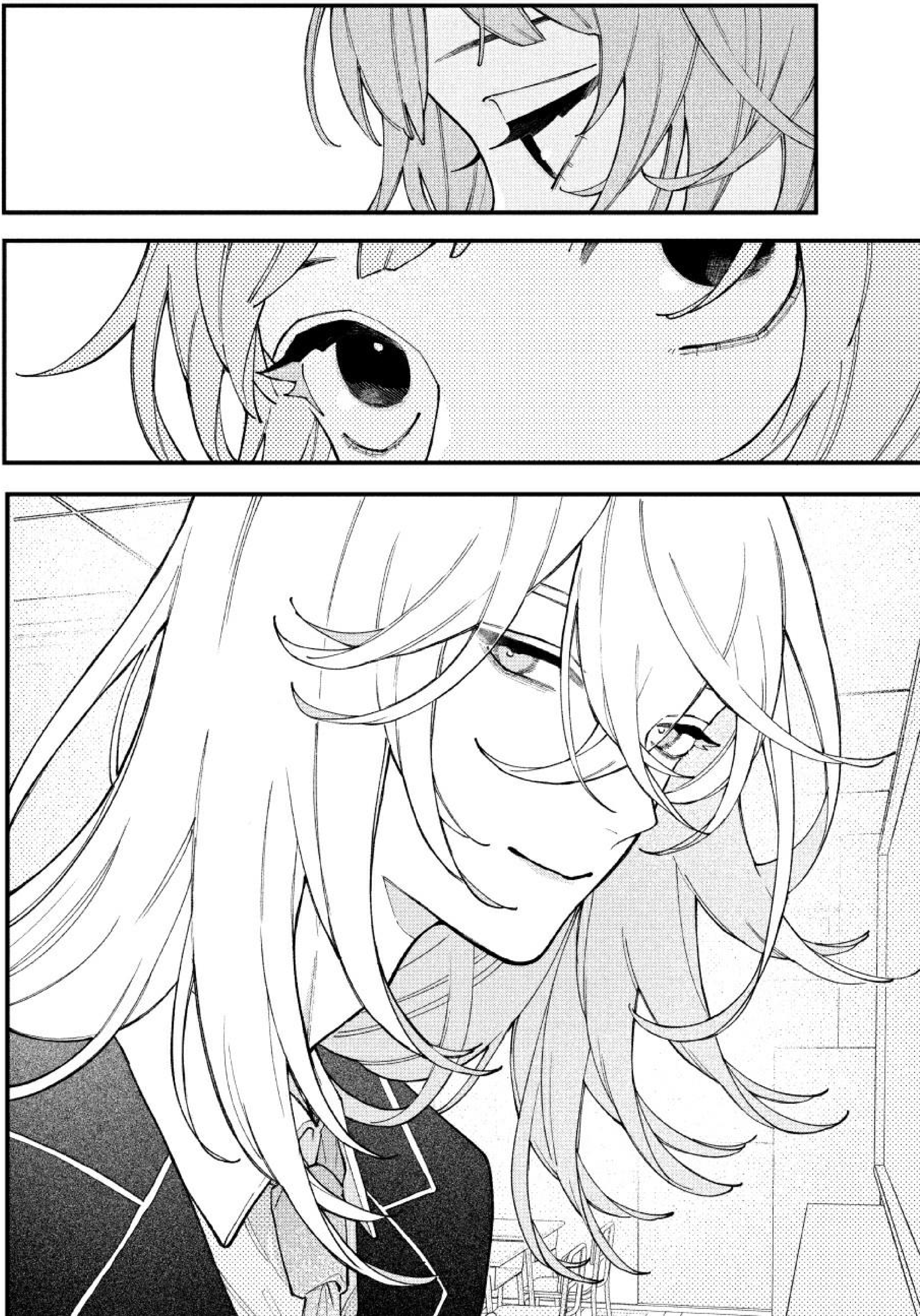


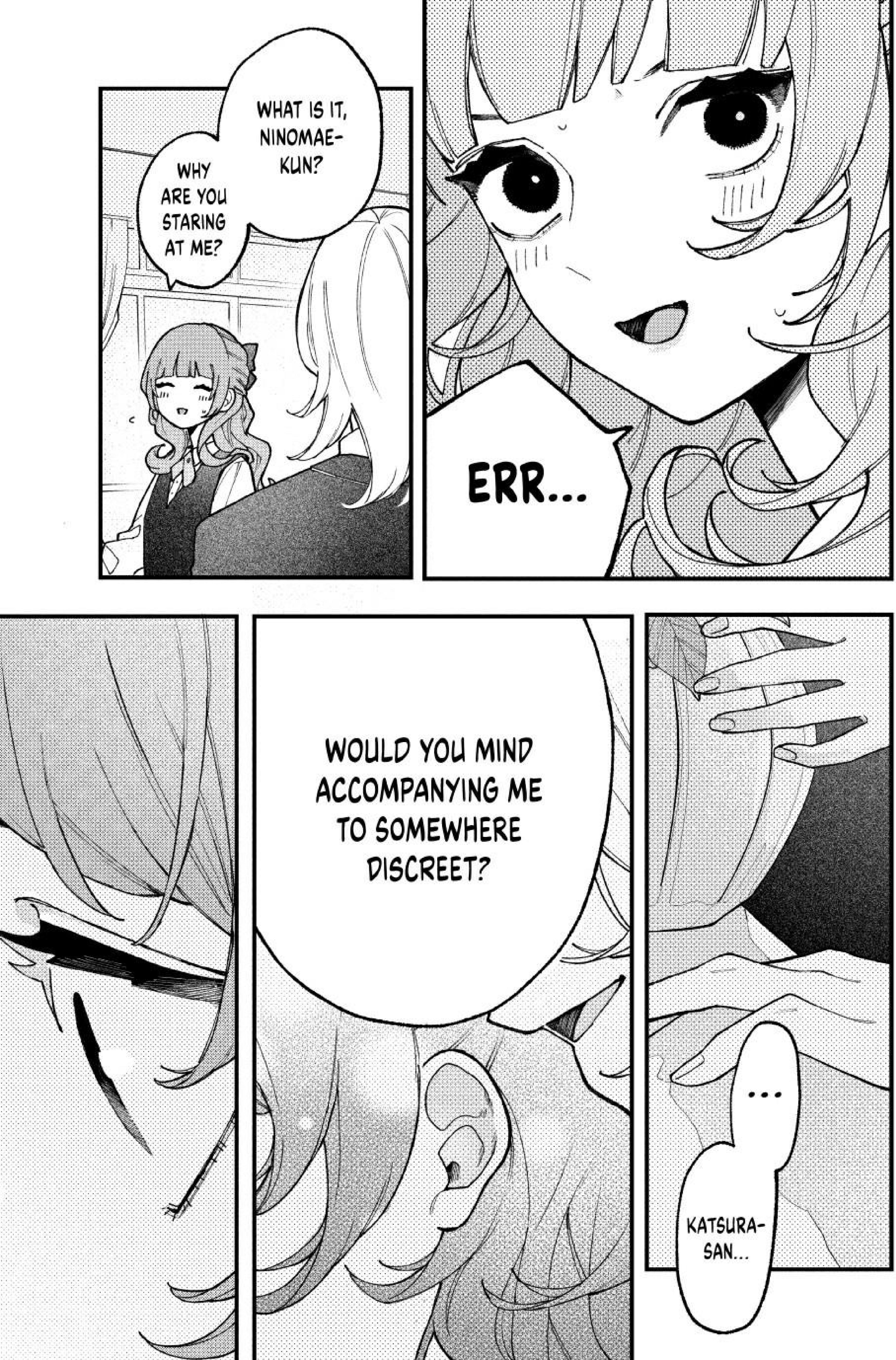
Fall in Love,
You False Angels

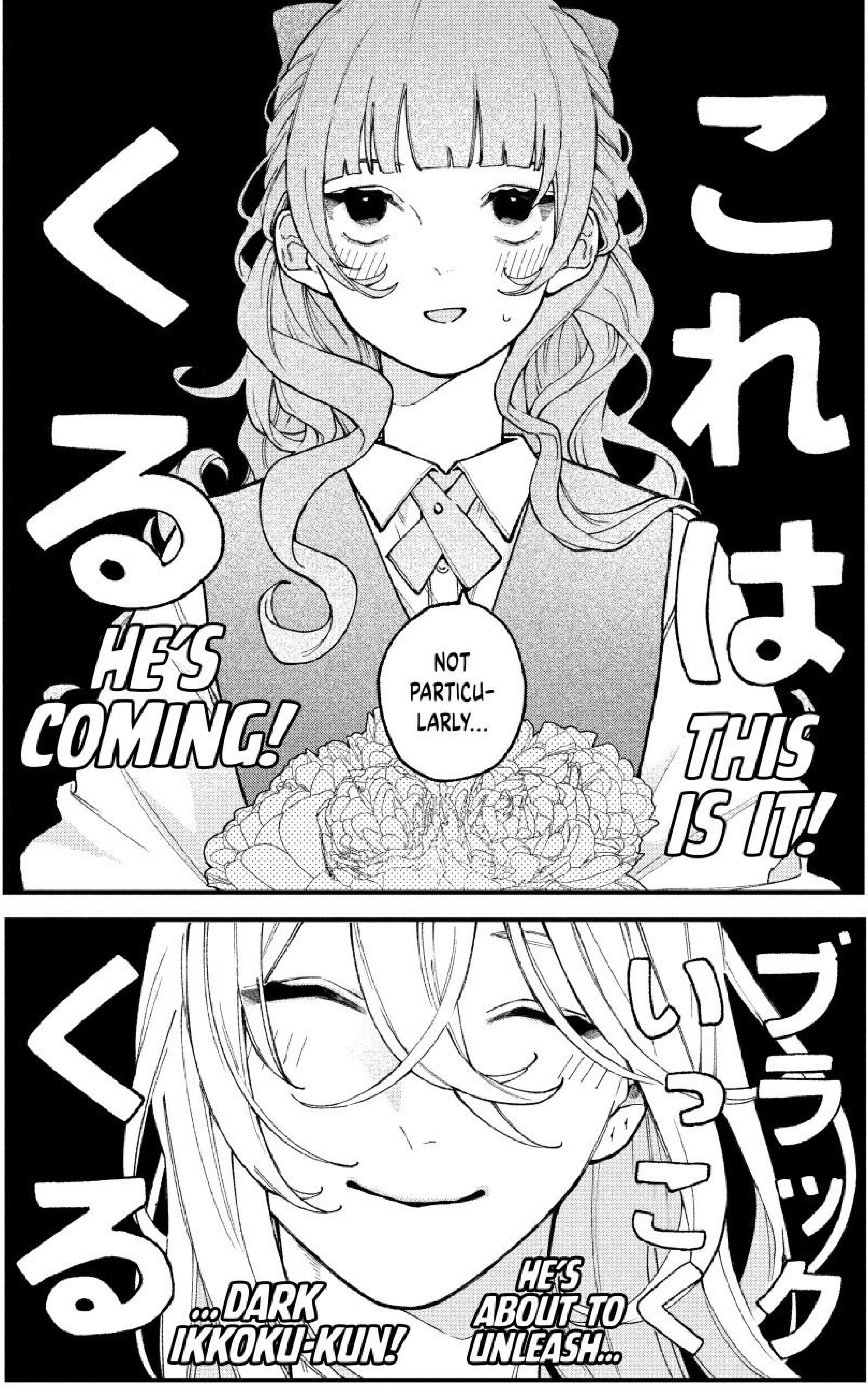

Good morning.
MY, OH MY...
IKKOKU-SAMA'S ALWAYS A TOTAL DREAMBOAT DAY IN AND DAY OUT.
HA HA... RIIIGHT.
...
SHE DOESN'T KNOW.
I SAW IT FOR MYSELF YESTERDAY!
IKKOKU-KUN ALSO HAS ANOTHER SIDE TO HIM.
AND I DUB IT... THE DARK IKKOKU-KUN!
...

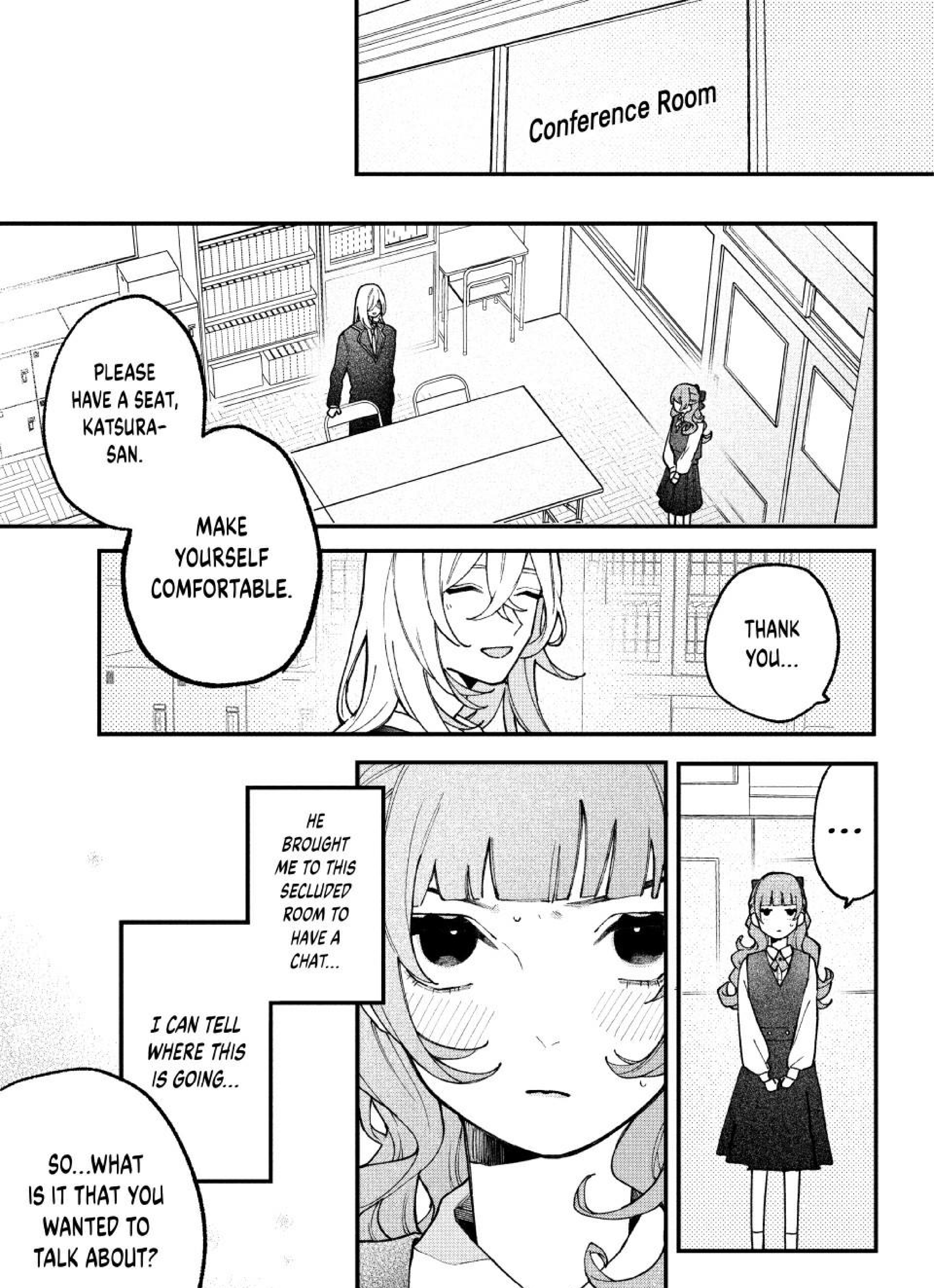

HELLO, KATSURA-SAN.
IT'S A FINE MORNING, ISN'T IT?
SMILE
にっこーり
HI, NINOMAE-KUN.
GOOD MORNING.
YOU CAN'T FOOL ME!

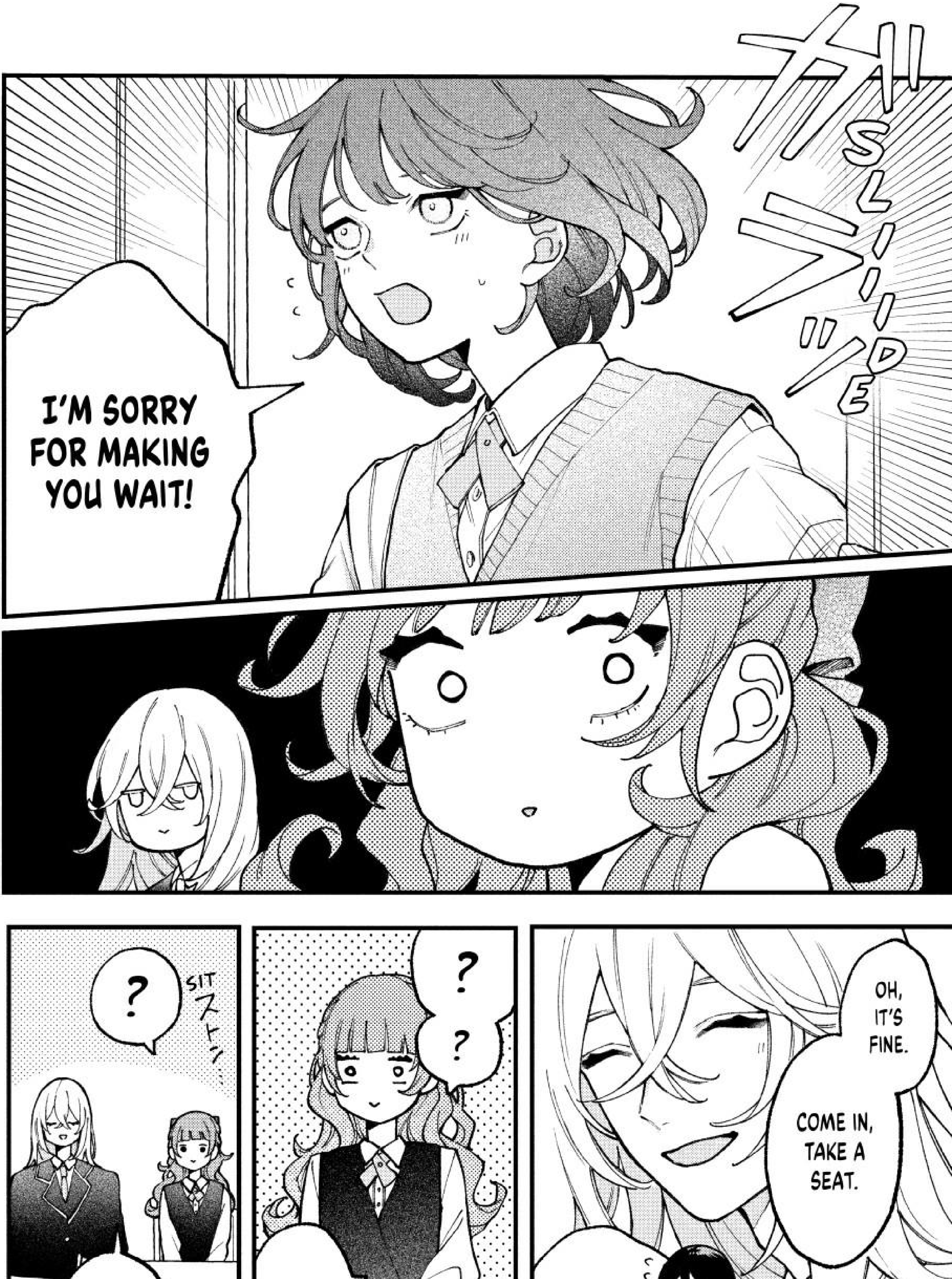

1-A
...WAS I JUST DREAMING IT YESTERDAY?
NO, THERE'S NO WAY, RIGHT?
HE CAN'T REVEAL HIS OTHER SIDE AT SCHOOL. YEAH, THAT'S GOTTA BE IT.
IT'D BE TROUBLESOME IF THE OTHERS FOUND OUT ABOUT HIS TRUE NATURE.
BUT I WAS SORTA HOPING HE'D SLIP IN SOME KIND OF HIDDEN MESSAGE, SOMETHING THAT ONLY WE'D KNOW AFTER REVEALING OUR TRUE SELVES TO EACH OTHER...

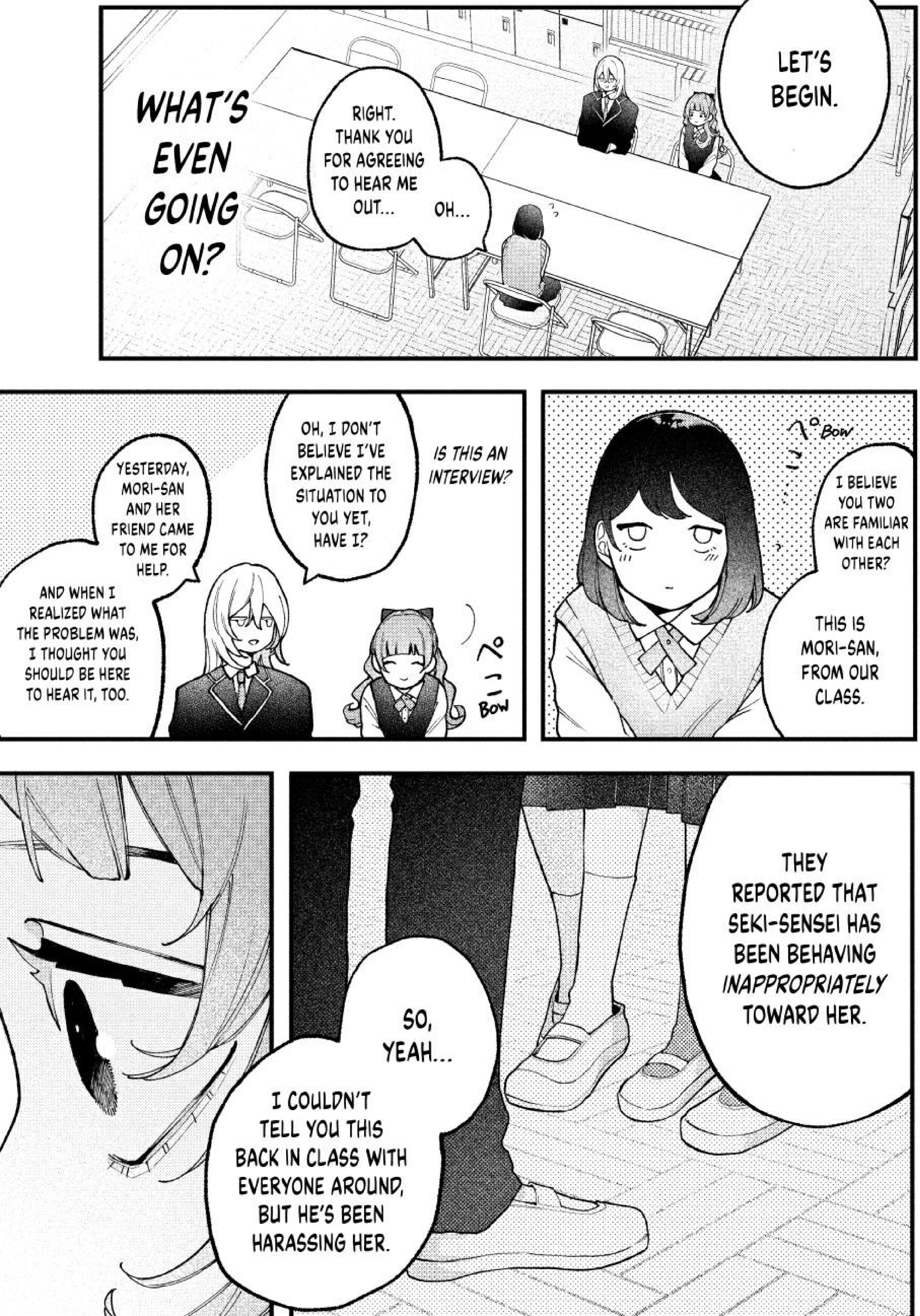


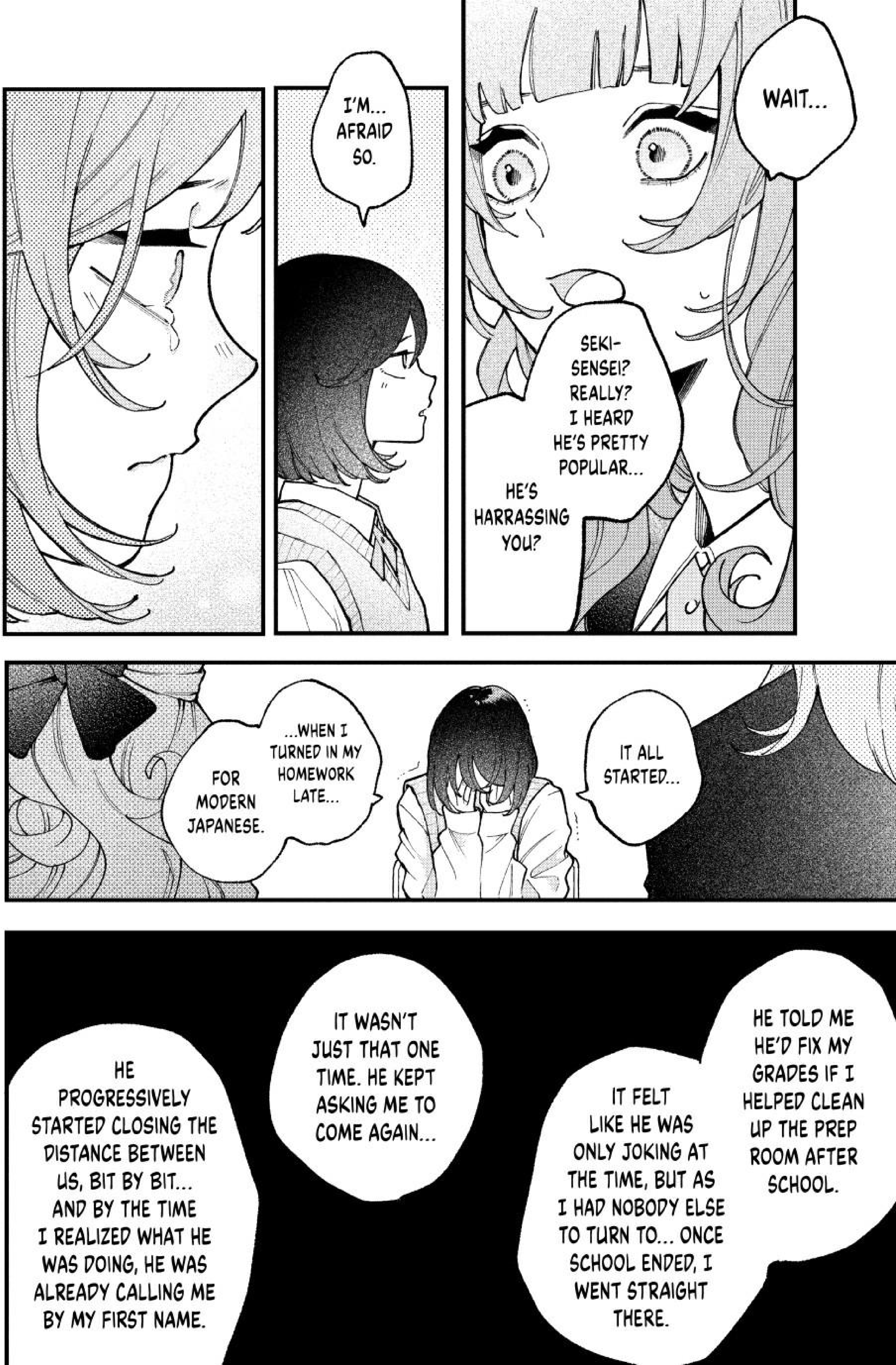

ERR...
WHAT IS IT, NINOMAE-KUN?
WHY ARE YOU STARING AT ME?
... KATSURA-SAN...
WOULD YOU MIND ACCOMPANYING ME TO SOMEWHERE DISCREET?

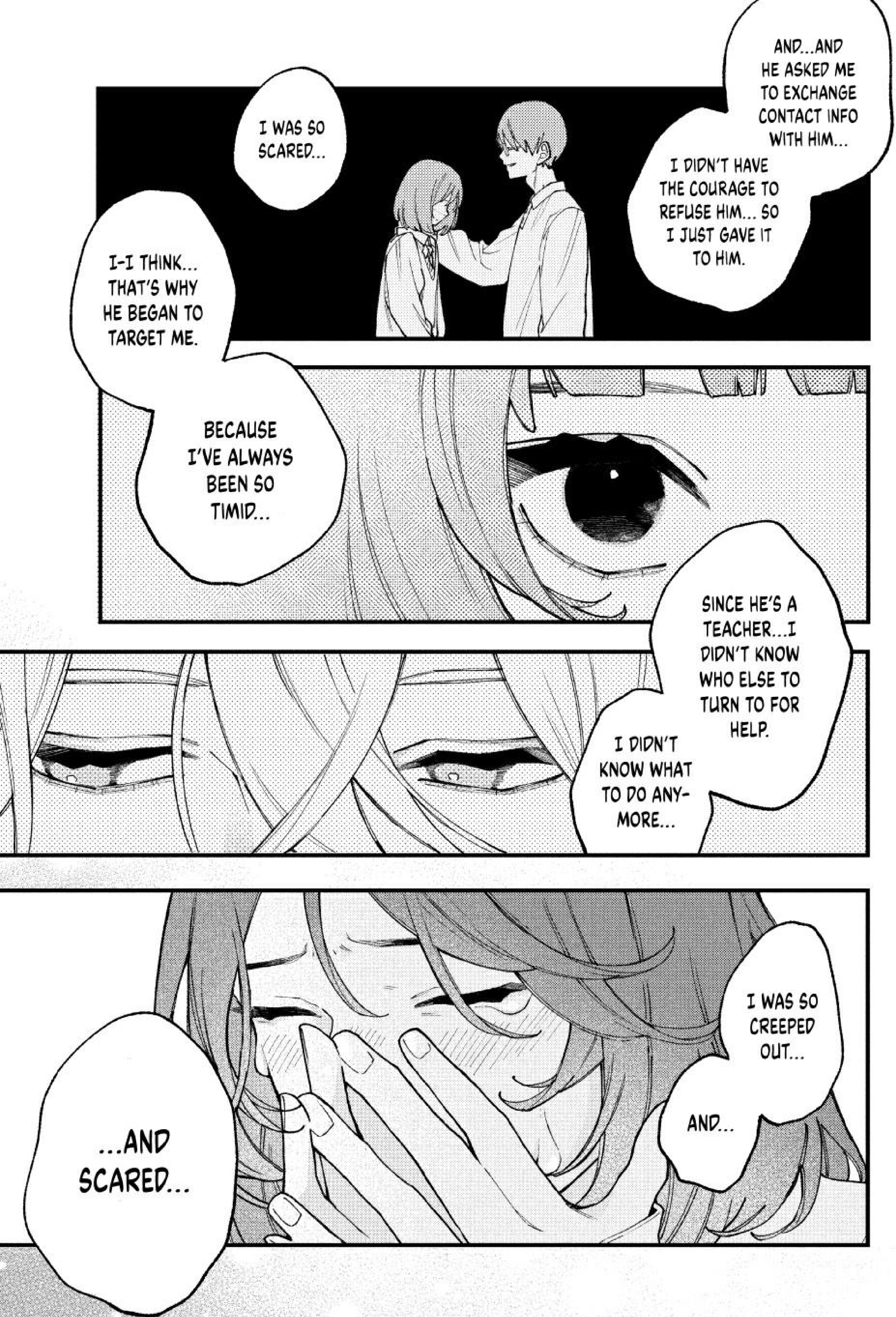

これは
THIS IS IT!
NOT PARTICULARLY…
くる
HE'S COMING!
ブラック
いっこく
くる
HE'S ABOUT TO UNLEASH…
…DARK IKKOKU-KUN!

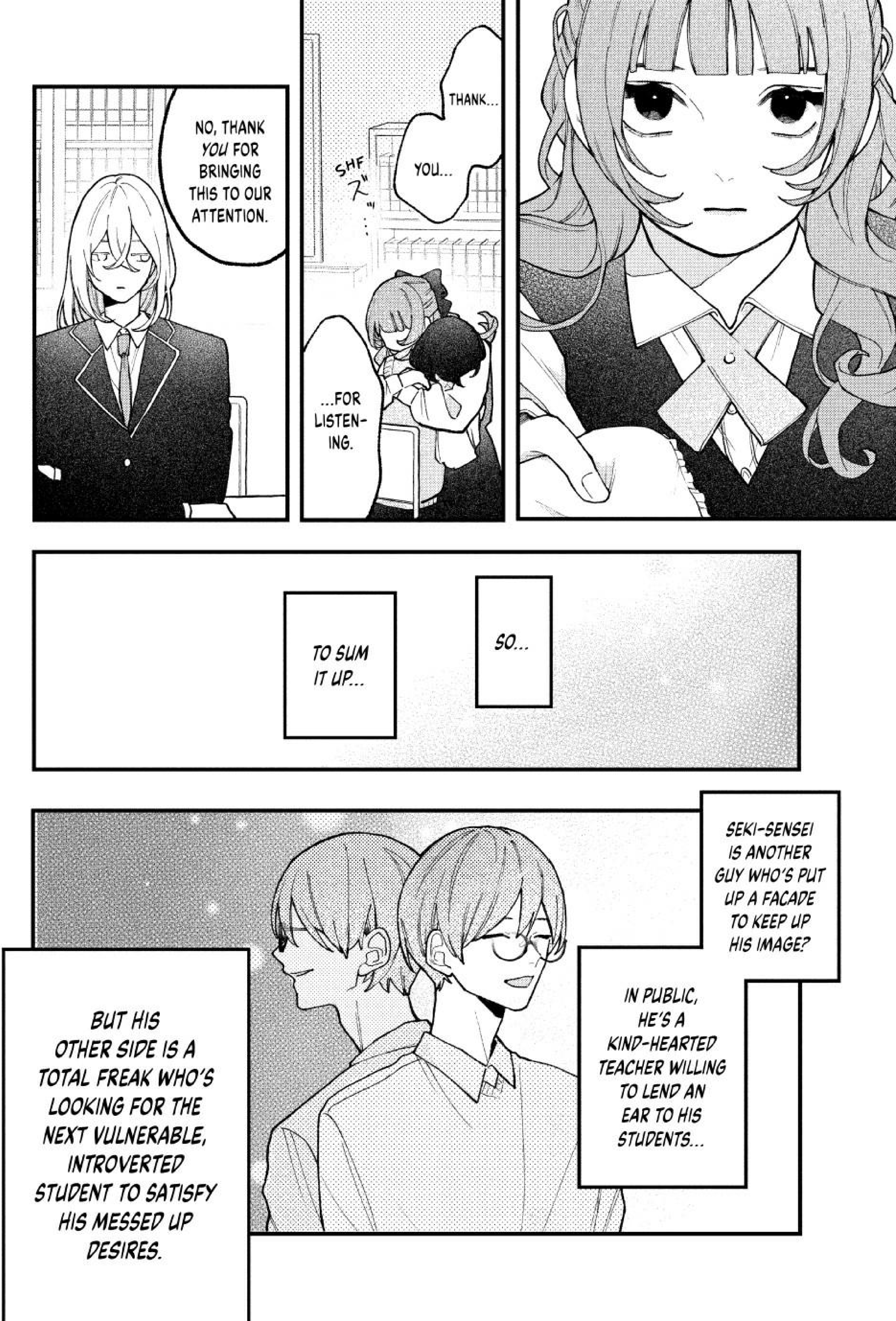

Conference Room
PLEASE HAVE A SEAT, KATSURA-SAN.
MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE.
THANK YOU...
...
HE BROUGHT ME TO THIS SECLUDED ROOM TO HAVE A CHAT...
I CAN TELL WHERE THIS IS GOING...
SO...WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT?

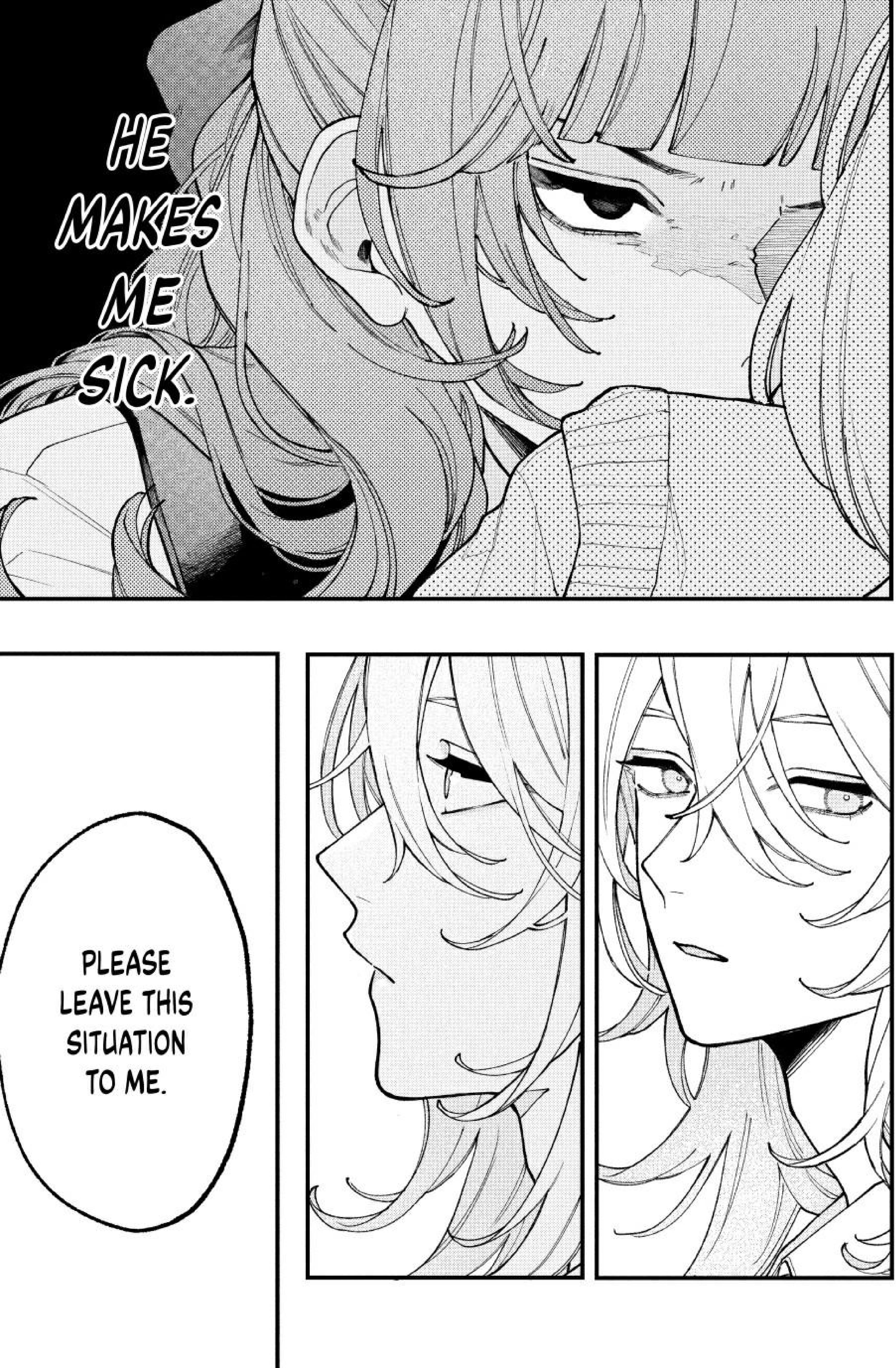

ガラッ
SLIIIDE
I'M SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT!
OH, IT'S FINE.
COME IN, TAKE A SEAT.
THANKS.
?
?
...?
?
SIT
ストン
NOW, THEN...

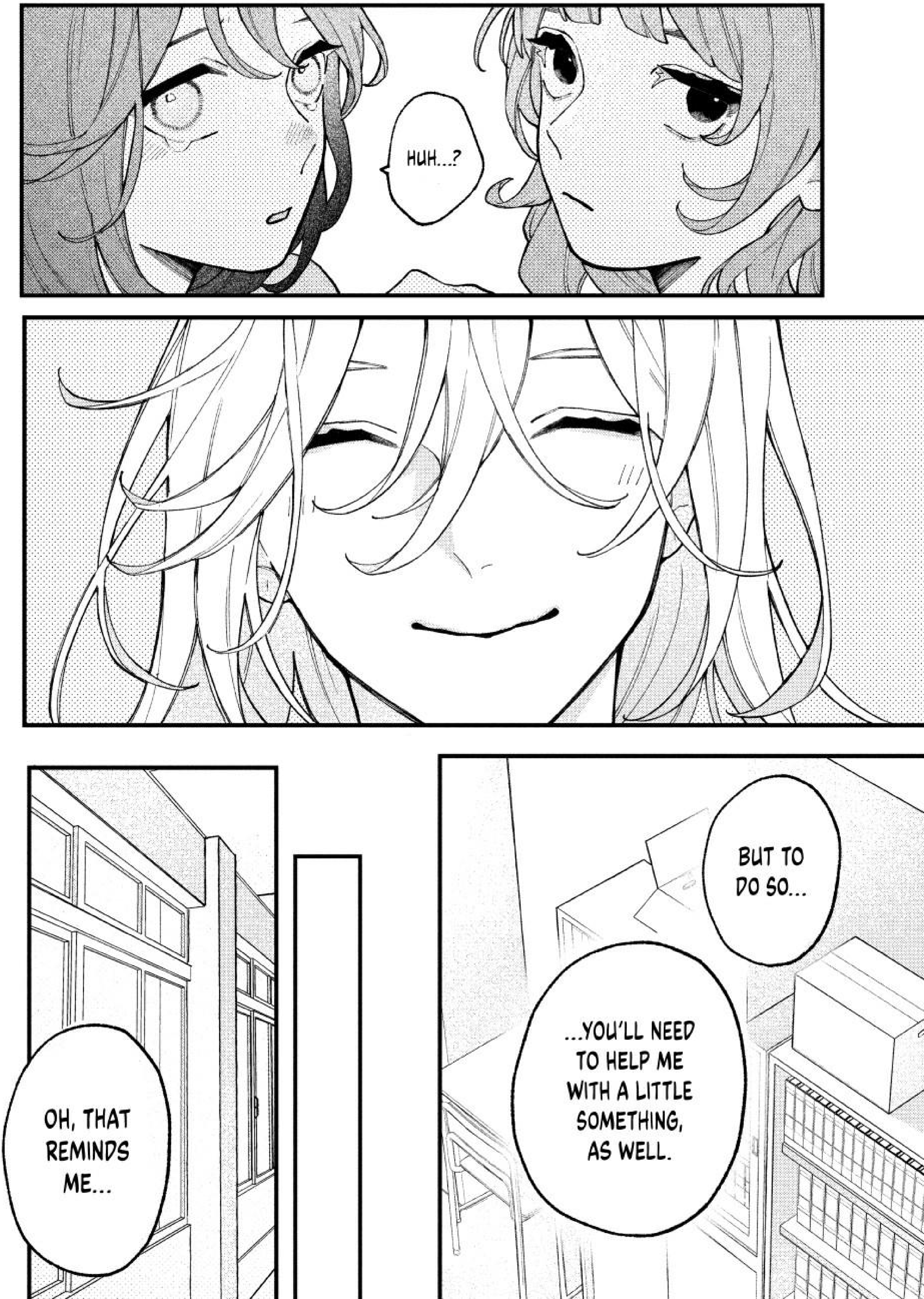

LET'S BEGIN.
RIGHT. THANK YOU FOR AGREEING TO HEAR ME OUT... OH...
WHAT'S EVEN GOING ON?
ぺこ BOW
I BELIEVE YOU TWO ARE FAMILIAR WITH EACH OTHER?
THIS IS MORI-SAN, FROM OUR CLASS.
ぺこ BOW
IS THIS AN INTERVIEW?
OH, I DON'T BELIEVE I'VE EXPLAINED THE SITUATION TO YOU YET, HAVE I?
YESTERDAY, MORI-SAN AND HER FRIEND CAME TO ME FOR HELP.
AND WHEN I REALIZED WHAT THE PROBLEM WAS, I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD BE HERE TO HEAR IT, TOO.
THEY REPORTED THAT SEKI-SENSEI HAS BEEN BEHAVING INAPPROPRIATELY TOWARD HER.
SO, YEAH...
I COULDN'T TELL YOU THIS BACK IN CLASS WITH EVERYONE AROUND, BUT HE'S BEEN HARASSING HER.

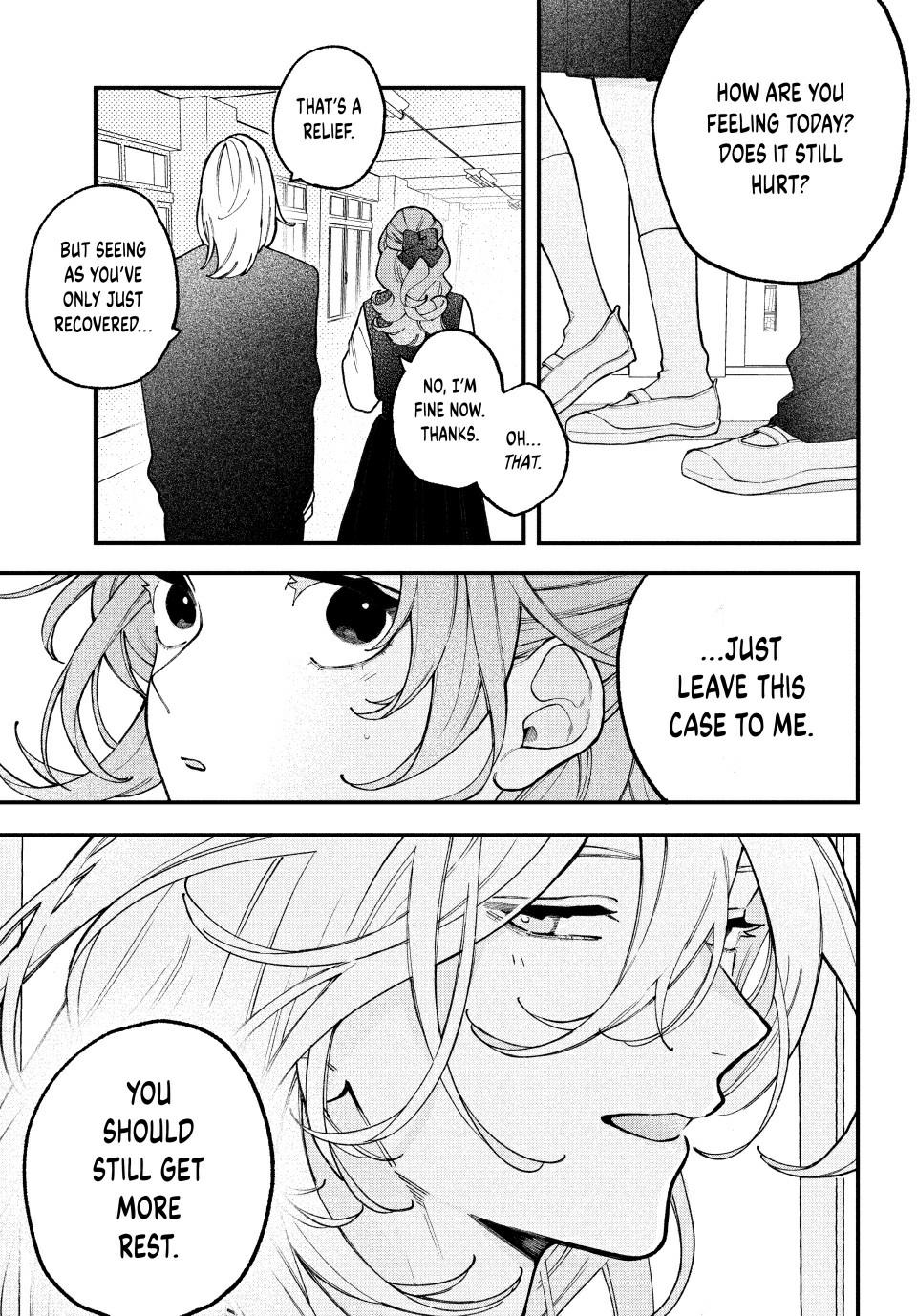

WAIT...
SEKI-SENSEI? REALLY? I HEARD HE'S PRETTY POPULAR...
HE'S HARRASSING YOU?
I'M... AFRAID SO.
IT ALL STARTED...
...WHEN I TURNED IN MY HOMEWORK LATE...
FOR MODERN JAPANESE.
HE TOLD ME HE'D FIX MY GRADES IF I HELPED CLEAN UP THE PREP ROOM AFTER SCHOOL.
IT FELT LIKE HE WAS ONLY JOKING AT THE TIME, BUT AS I HAD NOBODY ELSE TO TURN TO... ONCE SCHOOL ENDED, I WENT STRAIGHT THERE.
IT WASN'T JUST THAT ONE TIME. HE KEPT ASKING ME TO COME AGAIN...
HE PROGRESSIVELY STARTED CLOSING THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US, BIT BY BIT... AND BY THE TIME I REALIZED WHAT HE WAS DOING, HE WAS ALREADY CALLING ME BY MY FIRST NAME.

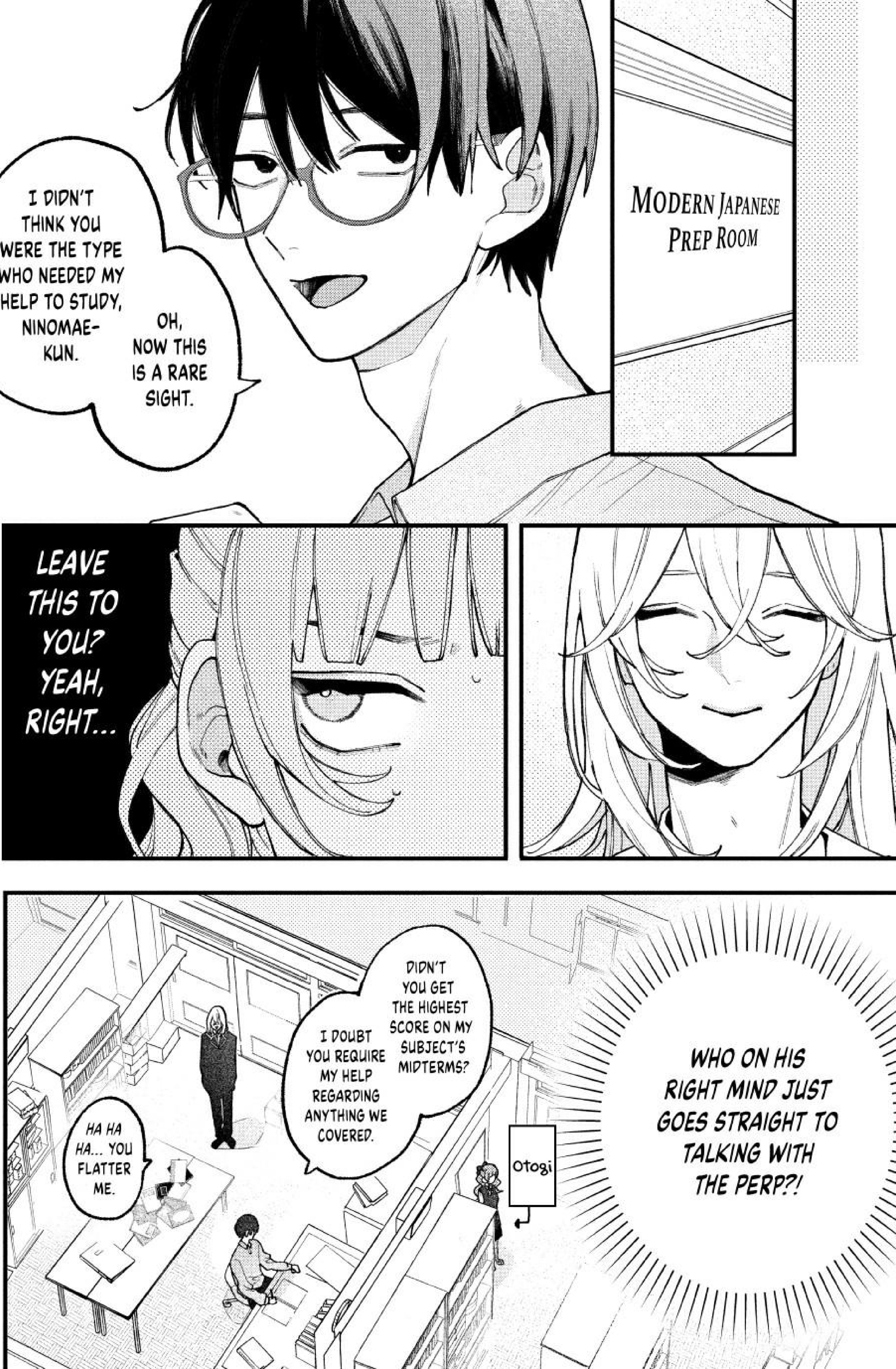

AND...AND HE ASKED ME TO EXCHANGE CONTACT INFO WITH HIM...
I DIDN'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO REFUSE HIM... SO I JUST GAVE IT TO HIM.
I WAS SO SCARED...
I-I THINK... THAT'S WHY HE BEGAN TO TARGET ME.
BECAUSE I'VE ALWAYS BEEN SO TIMID...
SINCE HE'S A TEACHER...I DIDN'T KNOW WHO ELSE TO TURN TO FOR HELP.
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO ANYMORE...
I WAS SO CREEPED OUT...
AND...
...AND SCARED...

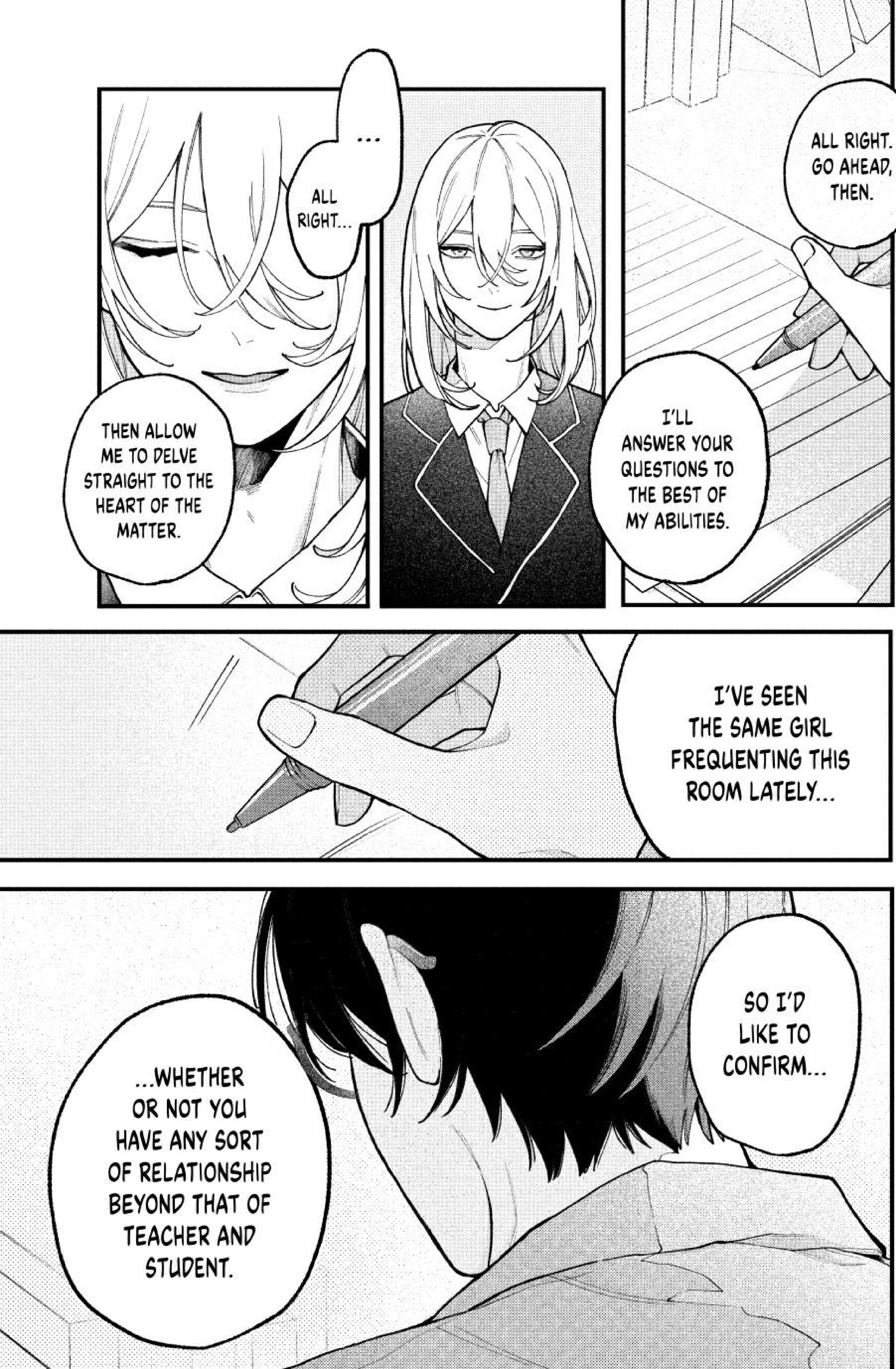

THANK...
YOU...
SHF ズ
...FOR LISTENING.
NO, THANK *YOU* FOR BRINGING THIS TO OUR ATTENTION.
SO...
TO SUM IT UP...
SEKI-SENSEI IS ANOTHER GUY WHO'S PUT UP A FACADE TO KEEP UP HIS IMAGE?
IN PUBLIC, HE'S A KIND-HEARTED TEACHER WILLING TO LEND AN EAR TO HIS STUDENTS...
BUT HIS OTHER SIDE IS A TOTAL FREAK WHO'S LOOKING FOR THE NEXT VULNERABLE, INTROVERTED STUDENT TO SATISFY HIS MESSED UP DESIRES.

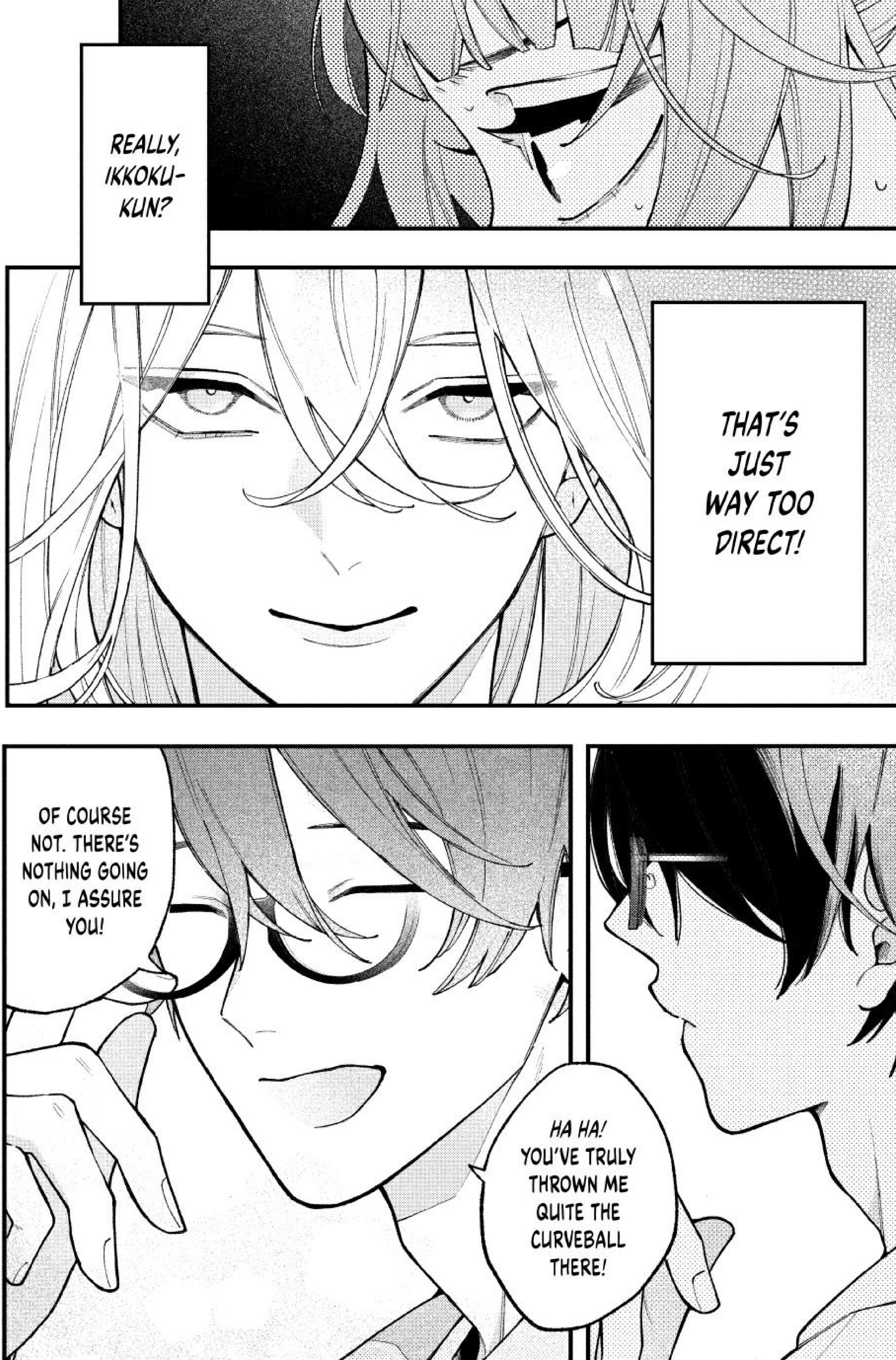

HE MAKES ME SICK.
PLEASE LEAVE THIS SITUATION TO ME.

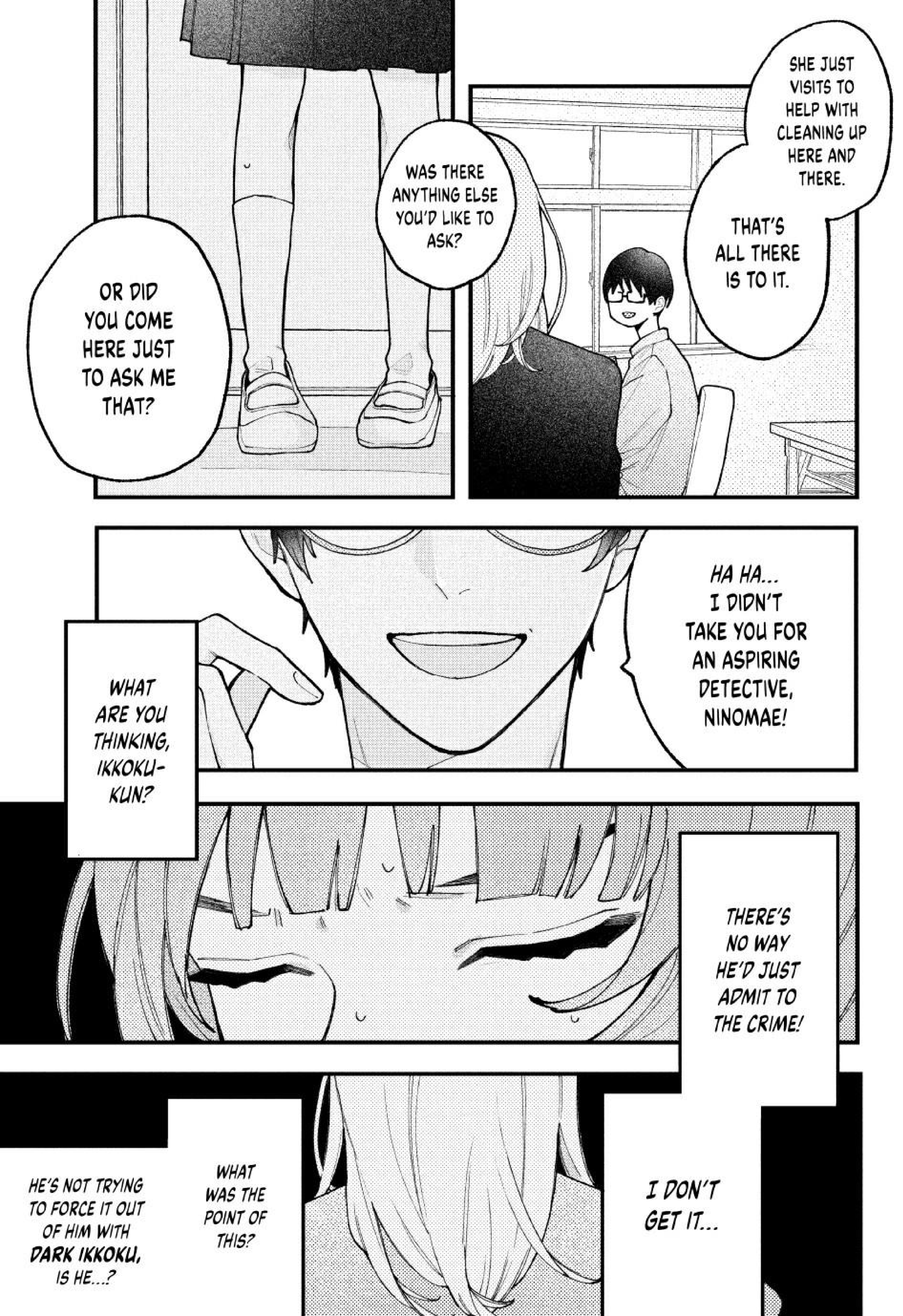

HUH...?
BUT TO DO SO...
...YOU'LL NEED TO HELP ME WITH A LITTLE SOMETHING, AS WELL.
OH, THAT REMINDS ME...

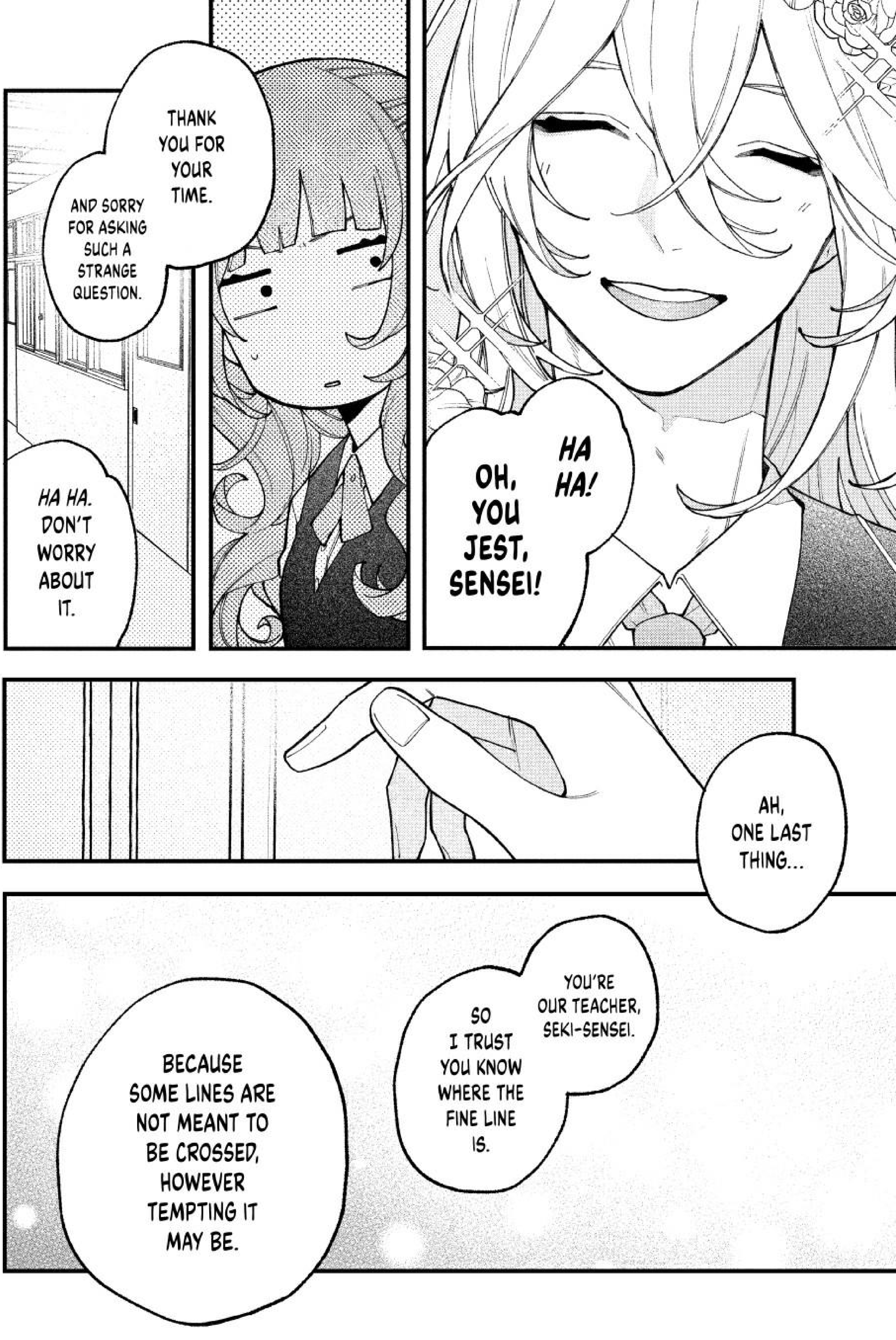

HOW ARE YOU FEELING TODAY? DOES IT STILL HURT?
OH... *THAT.*
NO, I'M FINE NOW. THANKS.
THAT'S A RELIEF.
BUT SEEING AS YOU'VE ONLY JUST RECOVERED...
...JUST LEAVE THIS CASE TO ME.
YOU SHOULD STILL GET MORE REST.

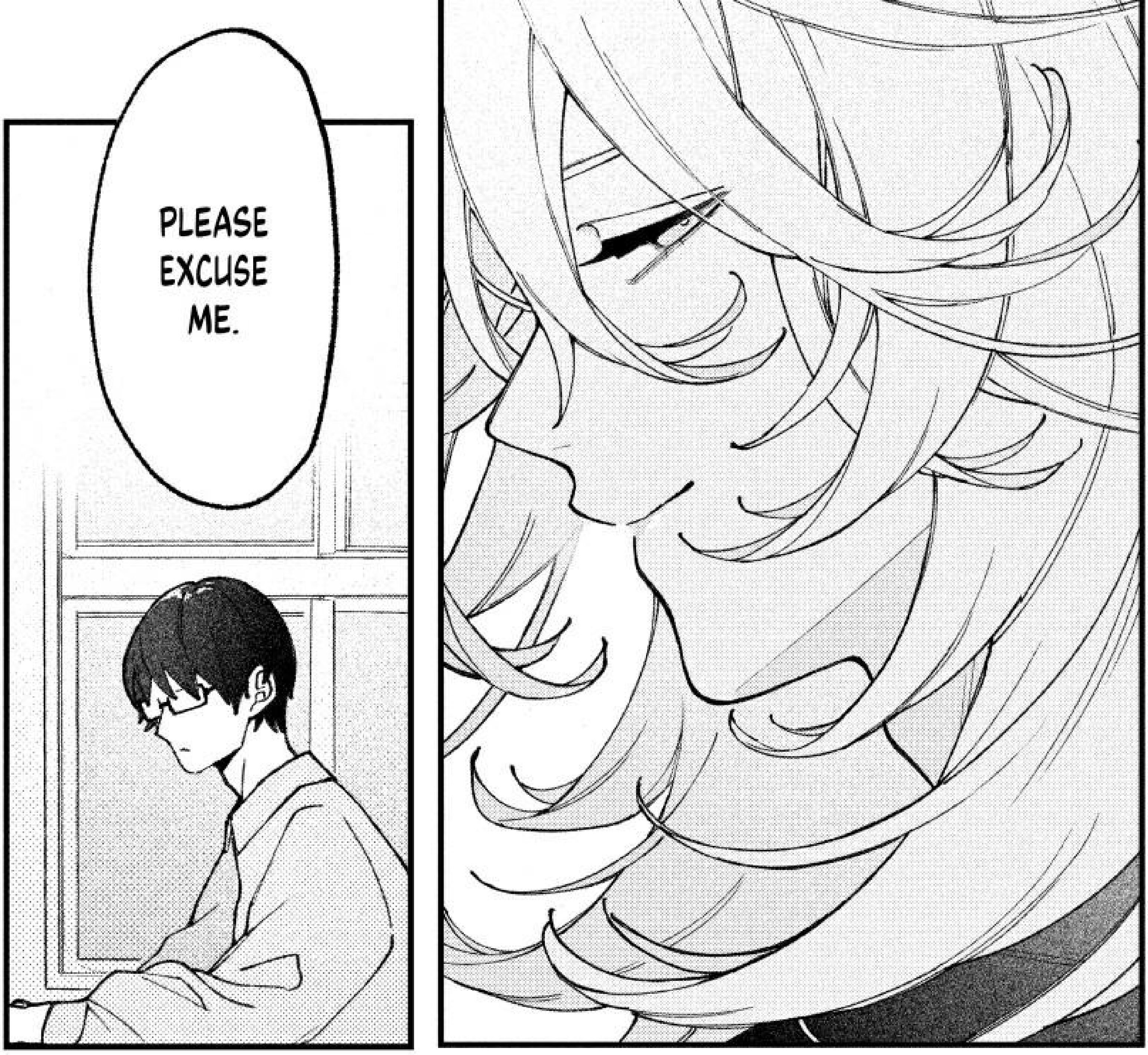

MODERN JAPANESE PREP ROOM
OH, NOW THIS IS A RARE SIGHT.
I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE THE TYPE WHO NEEDED MY HELP TO STUDY, NINOMAE-KUN.
LEAVE THIS TO YOU? YEAH, RIGHT...
WHO ON HIS RIGHT MIND JUST GOES STRAIGHT TO TALKING WITH THE PERP?!
Otogi
DIDN'T YOU GET THE HIGHEST SCORE ON MY SUBJECT'S MIDTERMS?
I DOUBT YOU REQUIRE MY HELP REGARDING ANYTHING WE COVERED.
HA HA HA... YOU FLATTER ME.

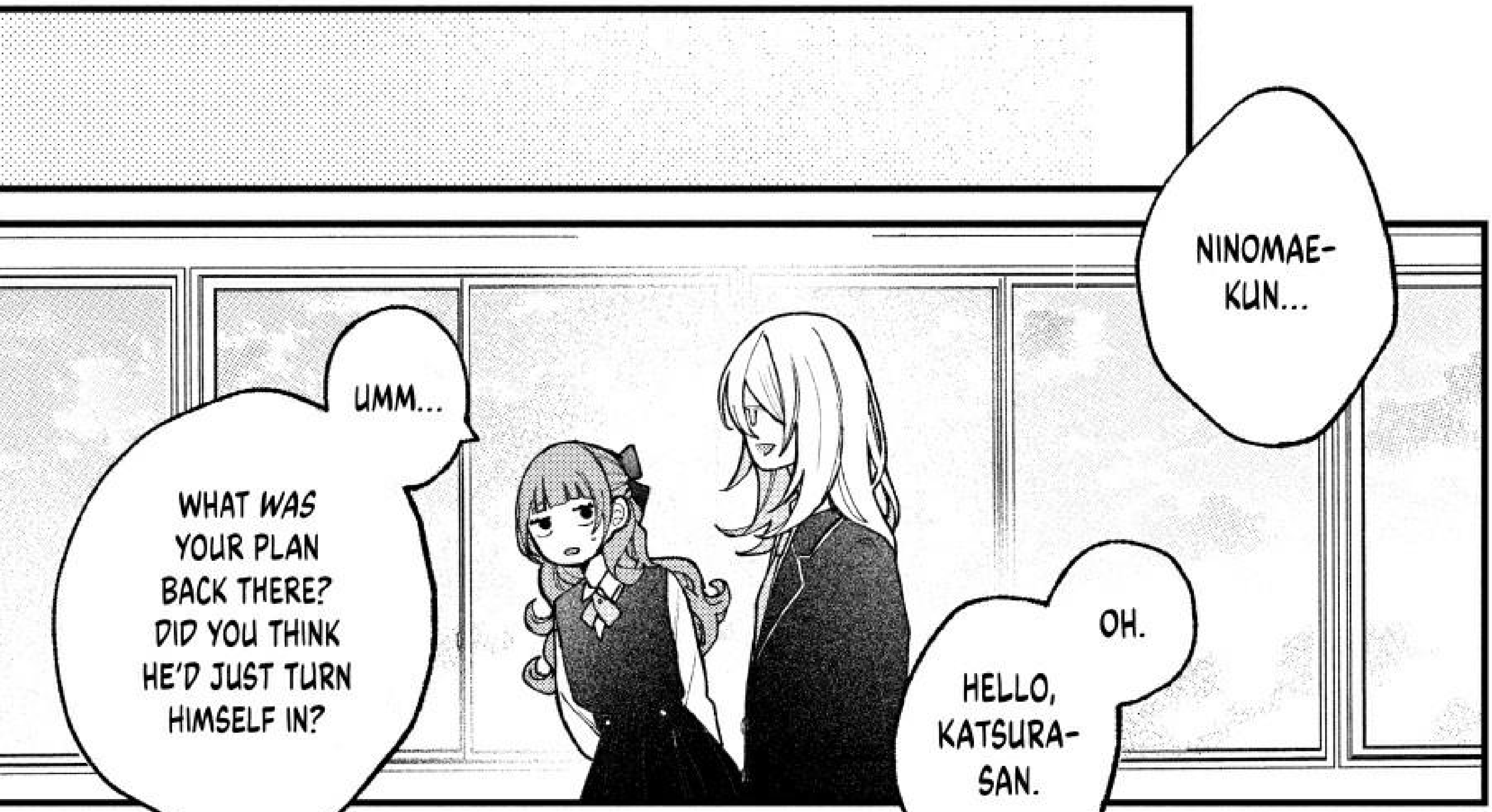

ALL RIGHT. GO AHEAD, THEN.
I'LL ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITIES.
...
ALL RIGHT...
THEN ALLOW ME TO DELVE STRAIGHT TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER.
I'VE SEEN THE SAME GIRL FREQUENTING THIS ROOM LATELY...
SO I'D LIKE TO CONFIRM...
...WHETHER OR NOT YOU HAVE ANY SORT OF RELATIONSHIP BEYOND THAT OF TEACHER AND STUDENT.

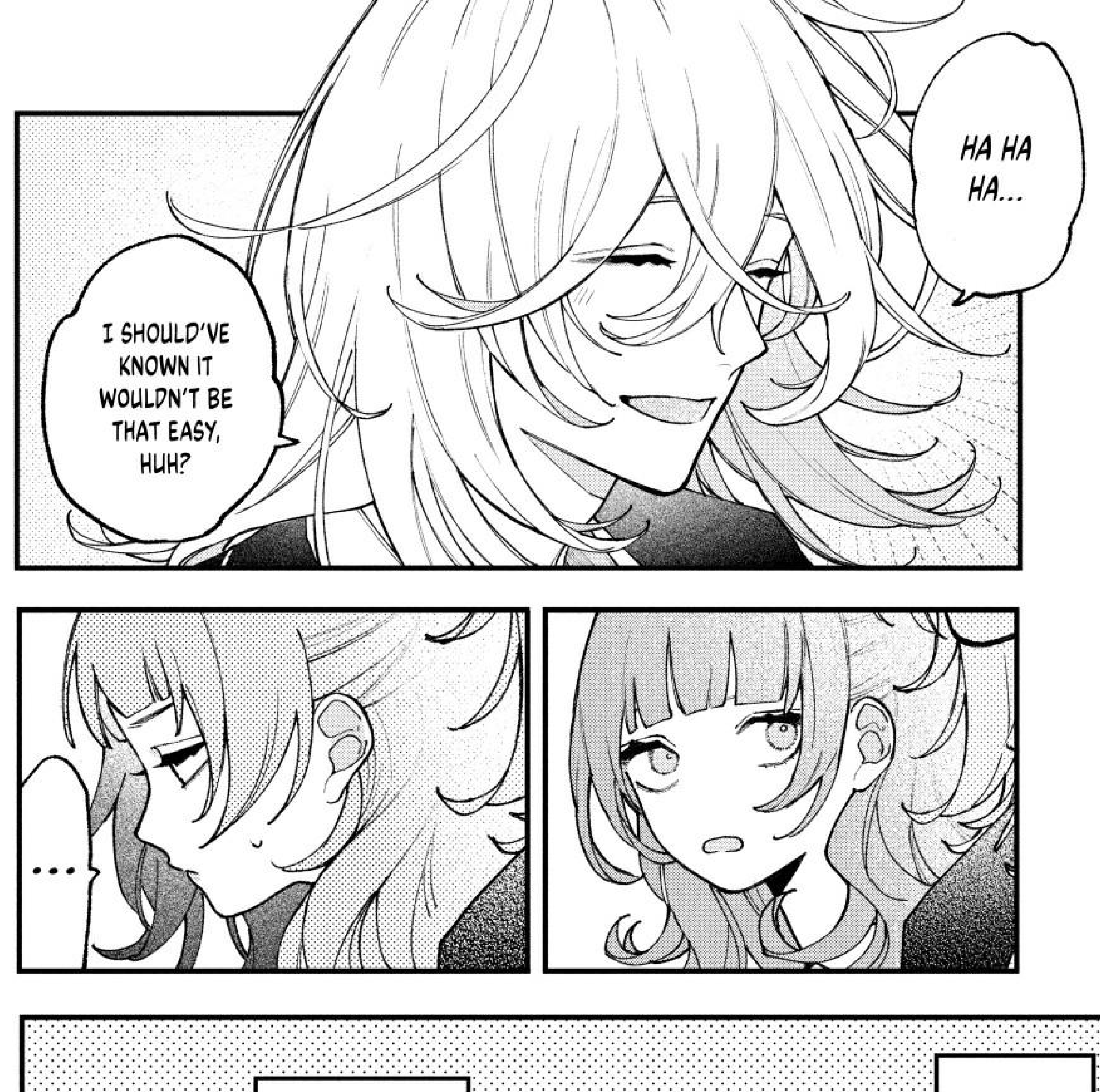

REALLY, IKKOKU-KUN?
THAT'S JUST WAY TOO DIRECT!
HA HA! YOU'VE TRULY THROWN ME QUITE THE CURVEBALL THERE!
OF COURSE NOT. THERE'S NOTHING GOING ON, I ASSURE YOU!

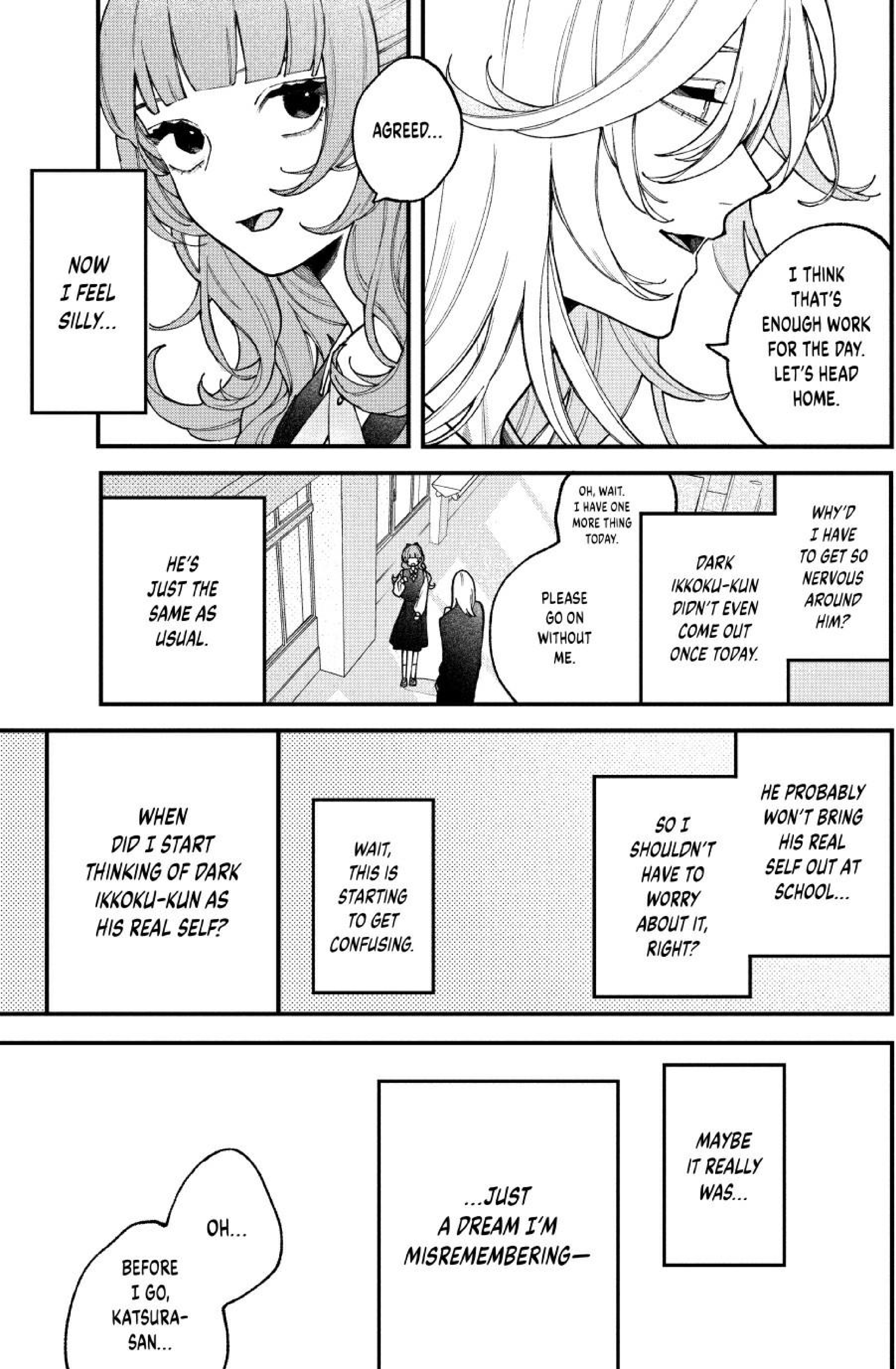

SHE JUST VISITS TO HELP WITH CLEANING UP HERE AND THERE.
THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.
WAS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO ASK?
OR DID YOU COME HERE JUST TO ASK ME THAT?
HA HA... I DIDN'T TAKE YOU FOR AN ASPIRING DETECTIVE, NINOMAE!
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING, IKKOKU-KUN?
THERE'S NO WAY HE'D JUST ADMIT TO THE CRIME!
I DON'T GET IT...
WHAT WAS THE POINT OF THIS?
HE'S NOT TRYING TO FORCE IT OUT OF HIM WITH **DARK IKKOKU,** IS HE...?

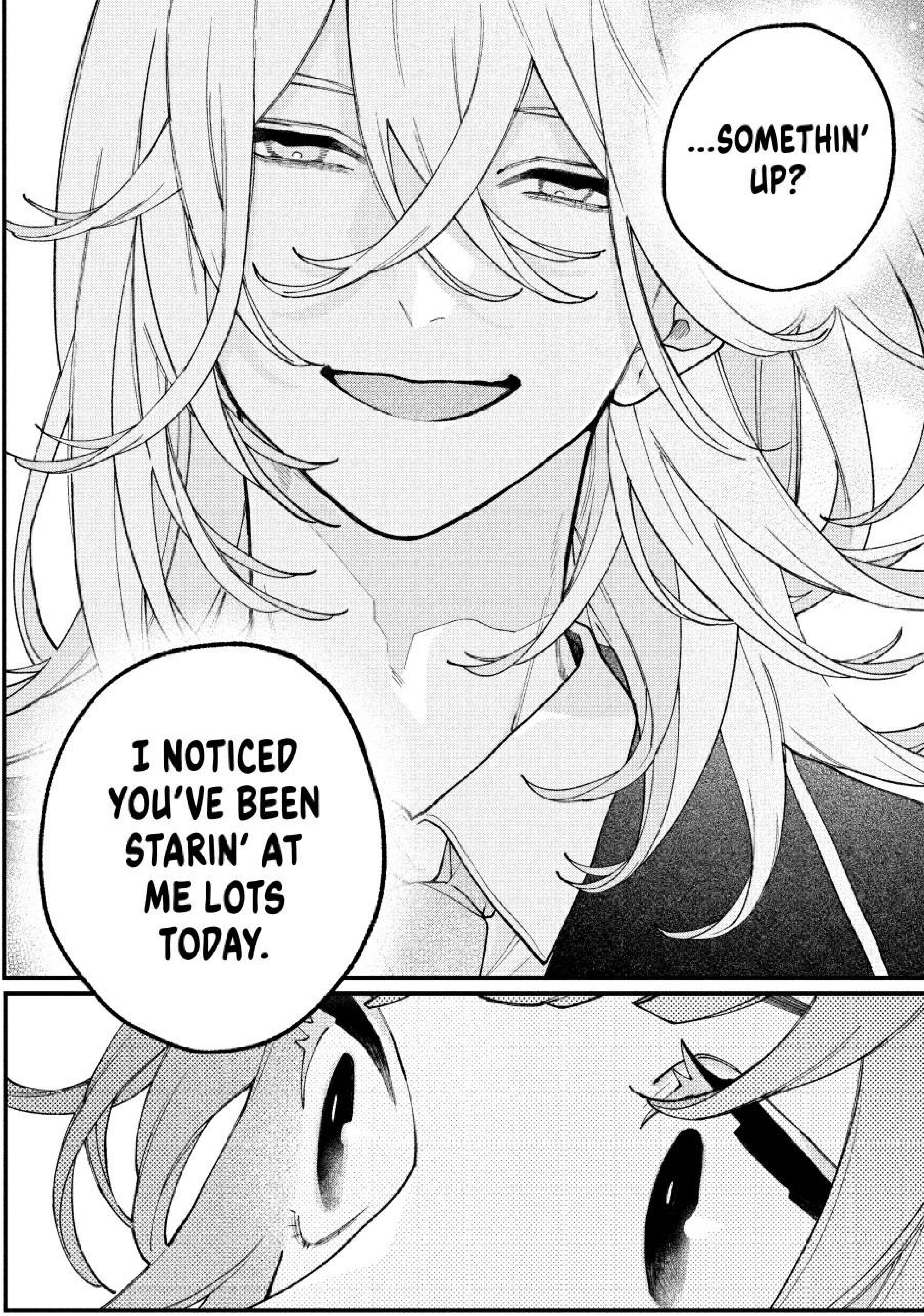

HA HA! OH, YOU JEST, SENSEI!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.
AND SORRY FOR ASKING SUCH A STRANGE QUESTION.
HA HA. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
AH, ONE LAST THING...
YOU'RE OUR TEACHER, SEKI-SENSEI.
SO I TRUST YOU KNOW WHERE THE FINE LINE IS.
BECAUSE SOME LINES ARE NOT MEANT TO BE CROSSED, HOWEVER TEMPTING IT MAY BE.

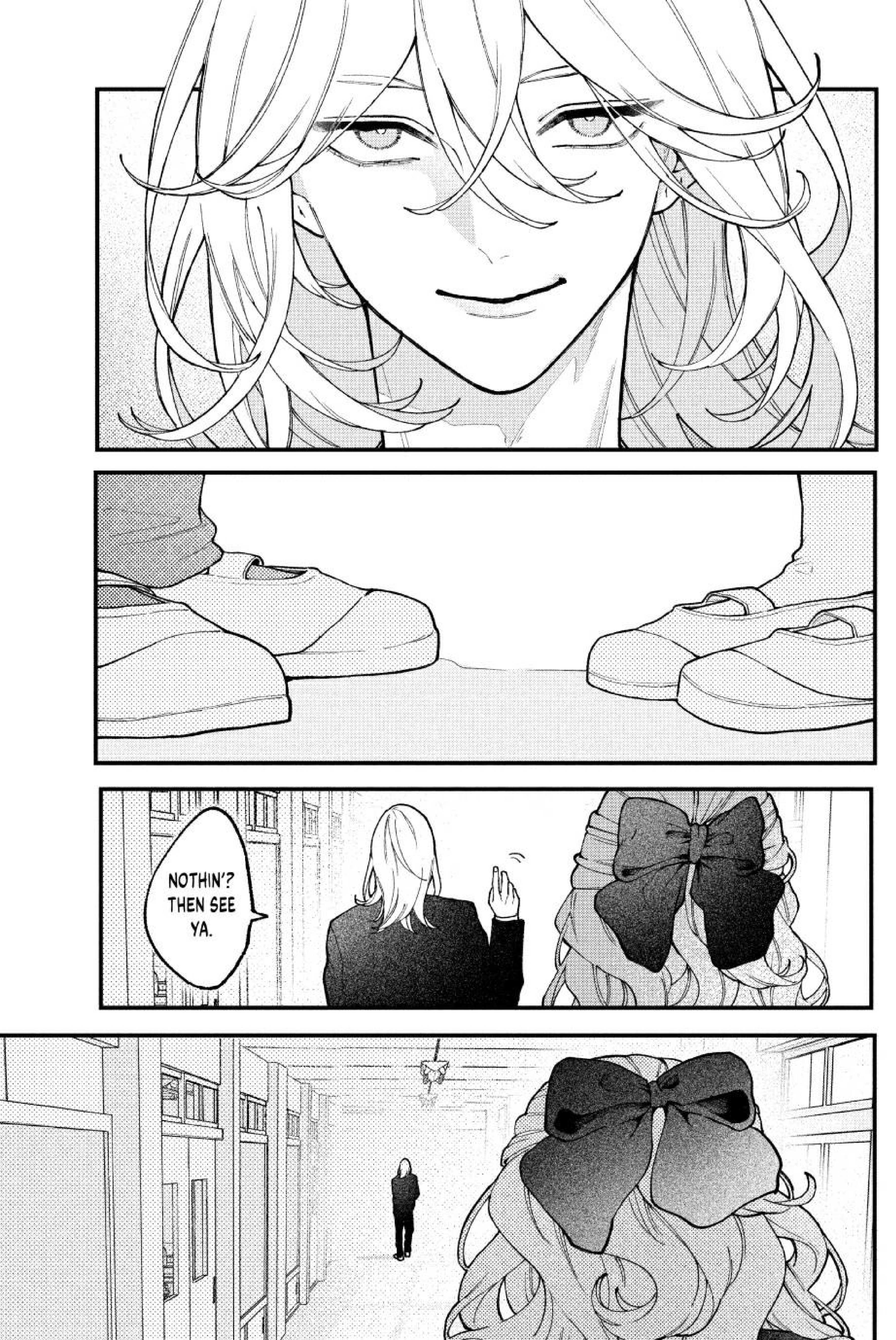

PLEASE EXCUSE ME.

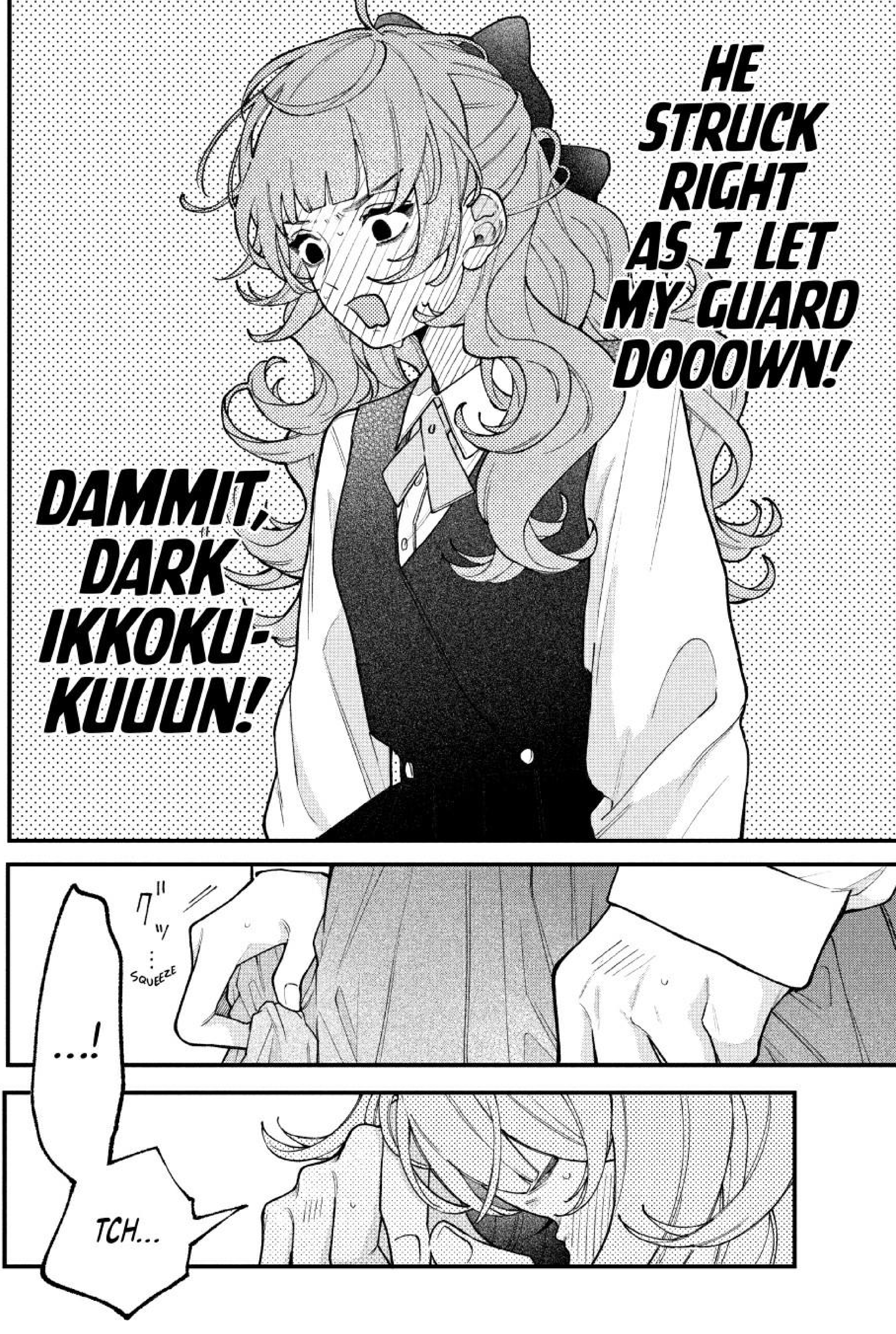

NINOMAE-KUN...
OH.
HELLO, KATSURA-SAN.
UMM...
WHAT *WAS* YOUR PLAN BACK THERE? DID YOU THINK HE'D JUST TURN HIMSELF IN?

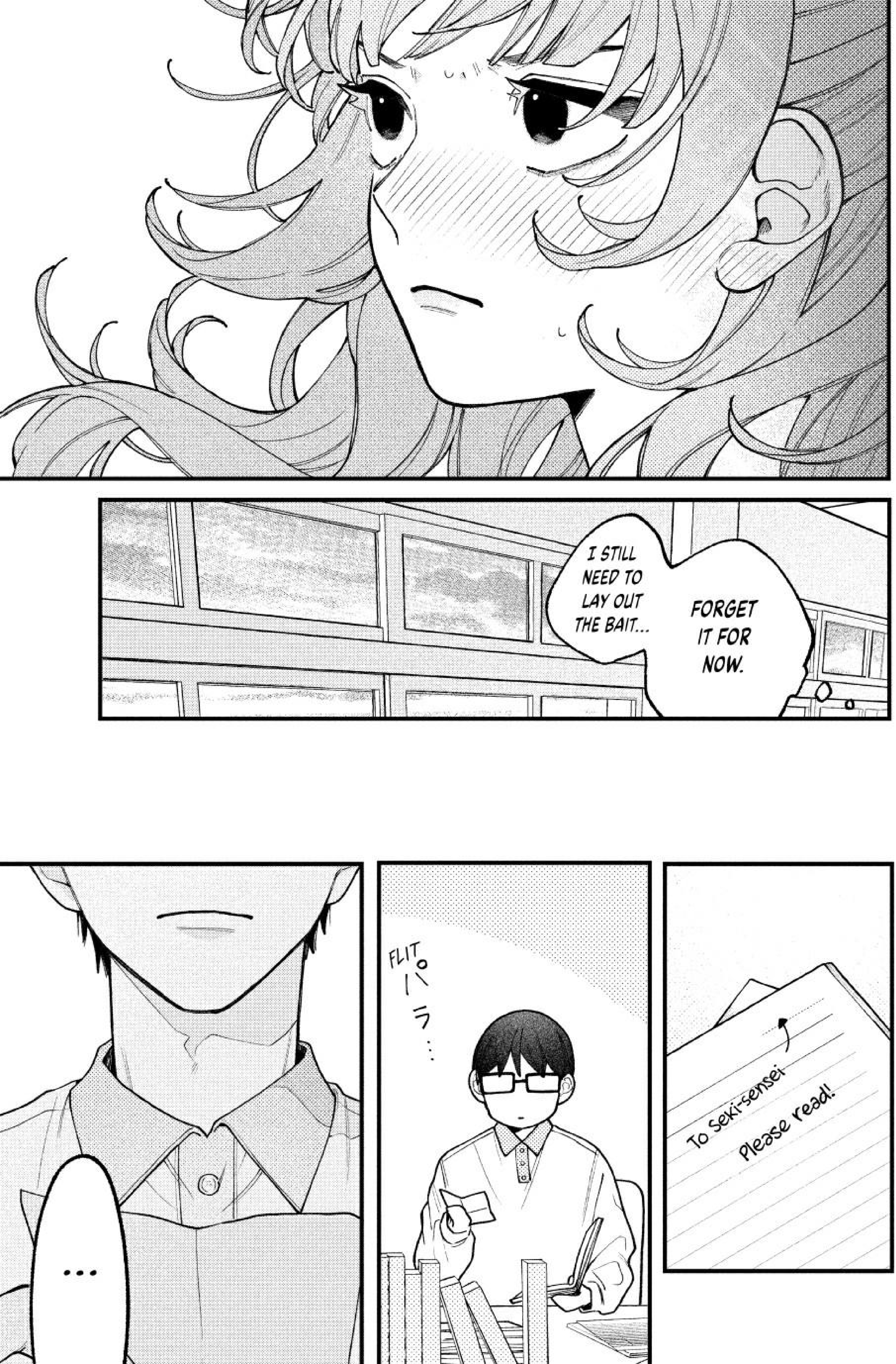

HA HA HA...
I SHOULD'VE KNOWN IT WOULDN'T BE THAT EASY, HUH?
...
LEAVE THIS TO HIM, HE SAYS...
HE'S NOT EVEN TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY.
AT THIS RATE, MORI-SAN'S NOT GOING TO GET ANY JUSTICE.
SHE MUST'VE SPENT SO LONG WORKING UP THE COURAGE TO COME TO US, TOO.
I'VE GOT TO DO THIS MYSELF.

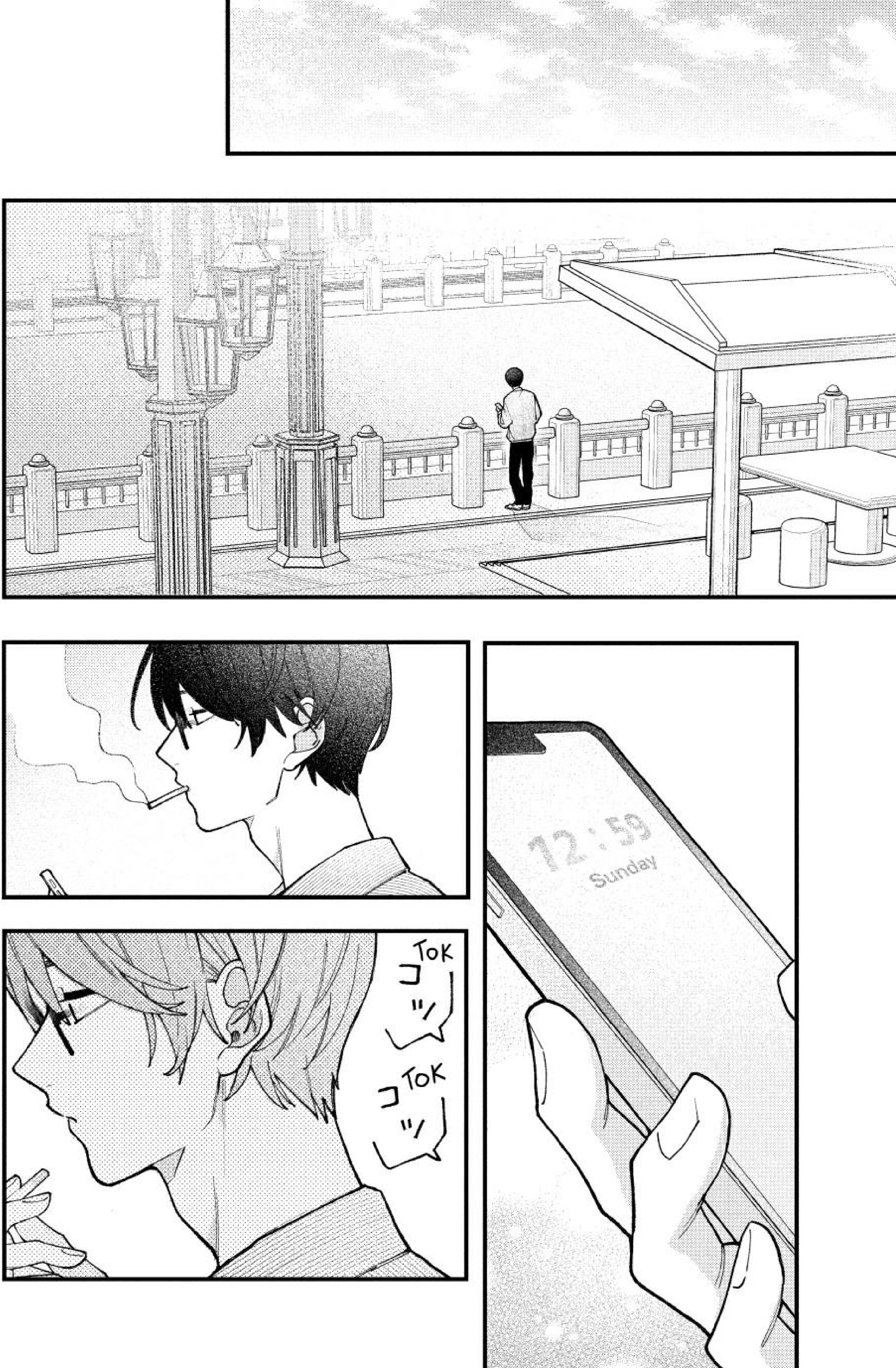

I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH WORK FOR THE DAY. LET'S HEAD HOME.
AGREED...
NOW I FEEL SILLY...
WHY'D I HAVE TO GET SO NERVOUS AROUND HIM?
DARK IKKOKU-KUN DIDN'T EVEN COME OUT ONCE TODAY.
OH, WAIT. I HAVE ONE MORE THING TODAY.
PLEASE GO ON WITHOUT ME.
HE'S JUST THE SAME AS USUAL.
HE PROBABLY WON'T BRING HIS REAL SELF OUT AT SCHOOL...
SO I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT IT, RIGHT?
WAIT, THIS IS STARTING TO GET CONFUSING.
WHEN DID I START THINKING OF DARK IKKOKU-KUN AS HIS REAL SELF?
MAYBE IT REALLY WAS...
...JUST A DREAM I'M MISREMEMBERING—
OH...
BEFORE I GO, KATSURA-SAN...

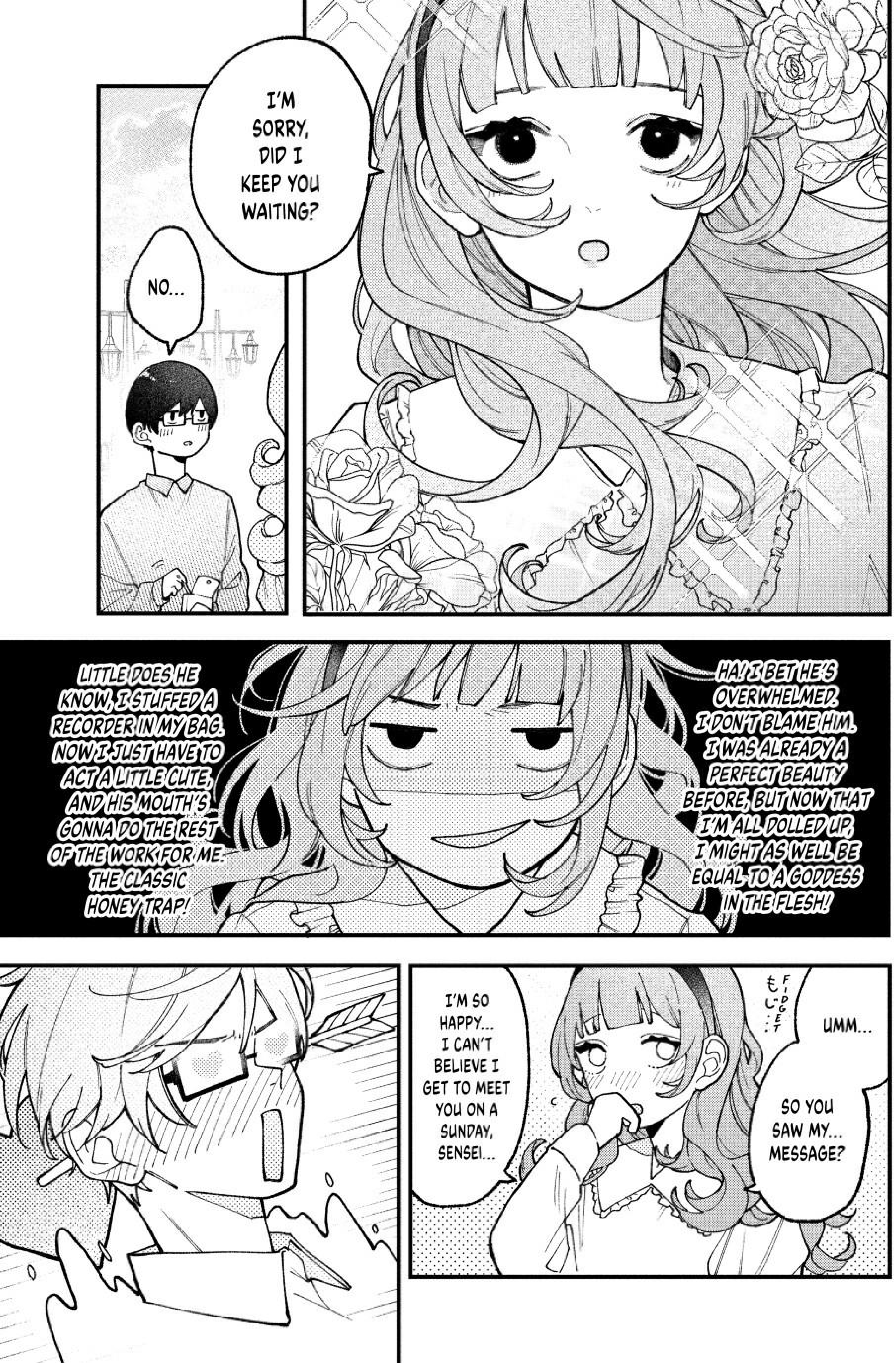

...SOMETHIN' UP?
I NOTICED YOU'VE BEEN STARIN' AT ME LOTS TODAY.

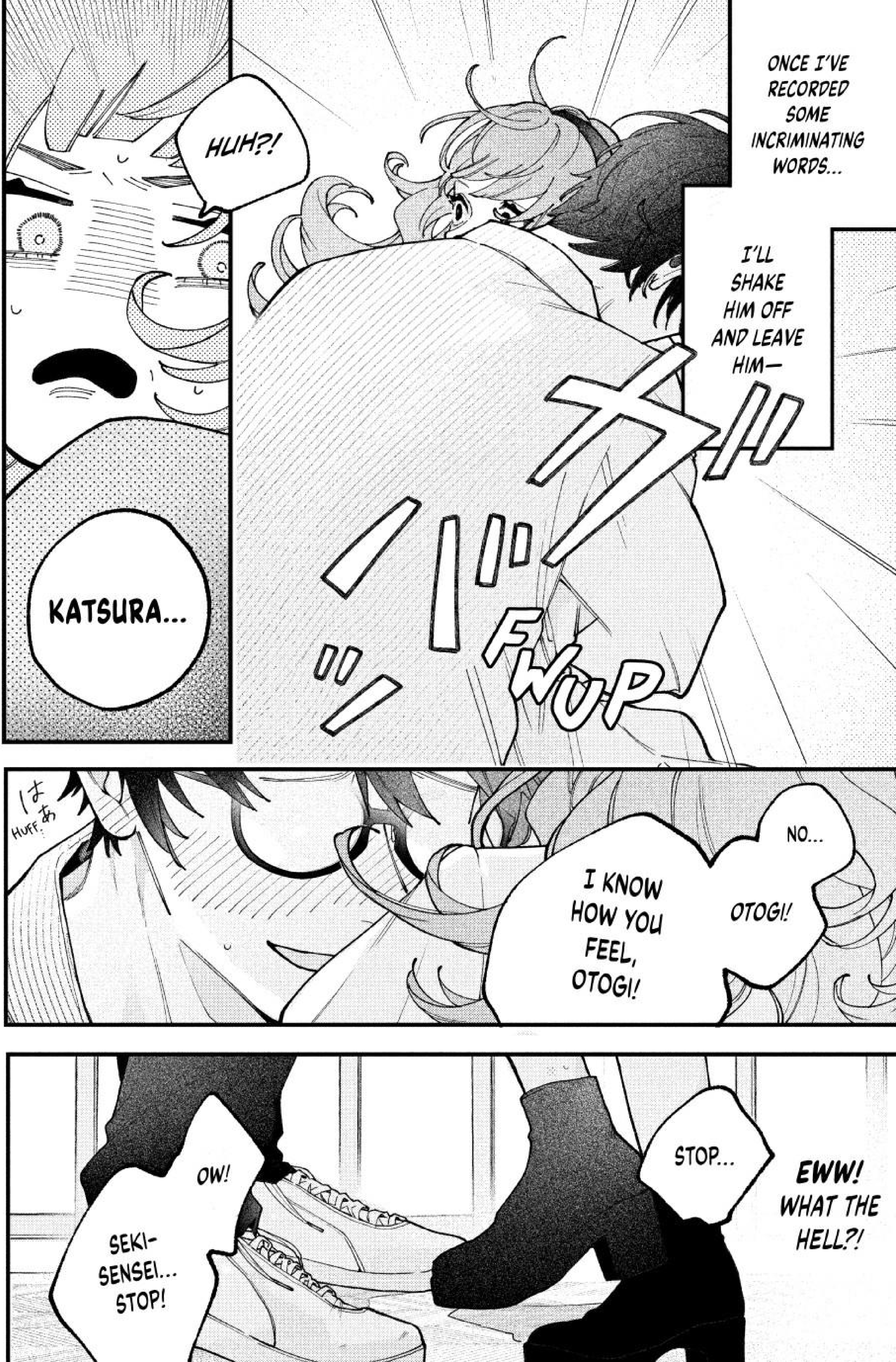

NOTHIN'? THEN SEE YA.

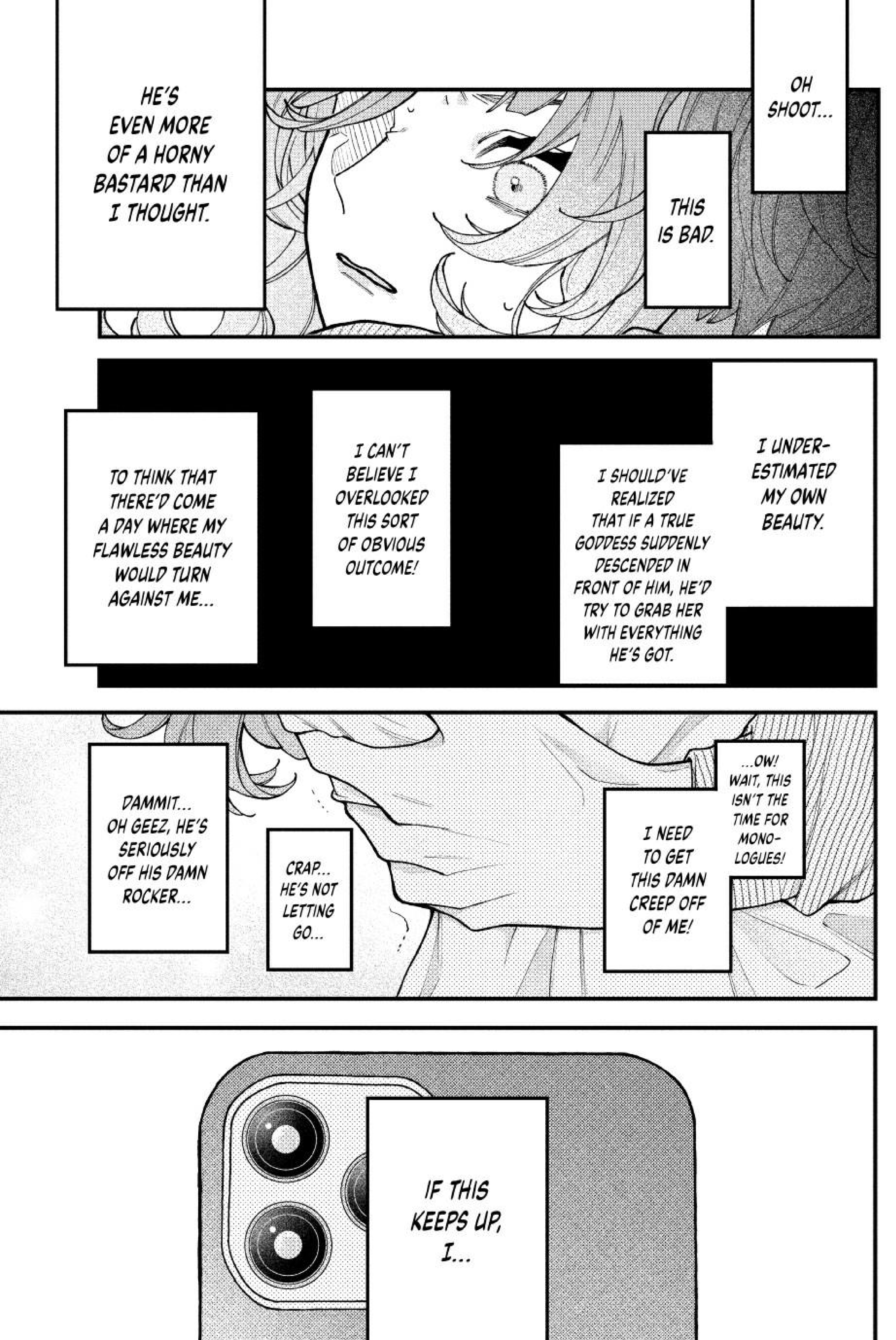

HE STRUCK RIGHT AS I LET MY GUARD DOOOWN!
DAMMIT, DARK IKKOKU-KUUUN!
グッ
SQUEEZE
...!
TCH...

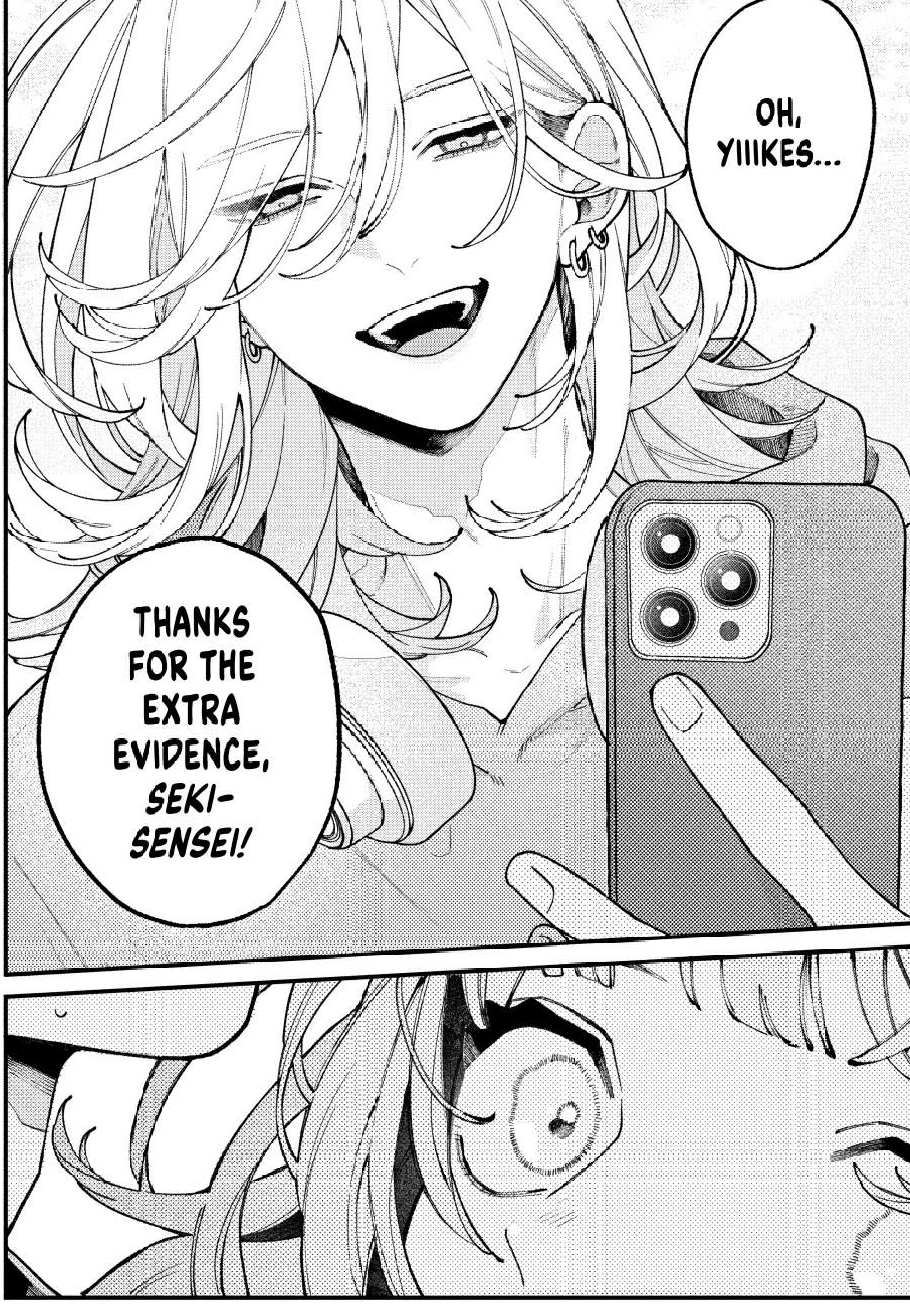

I STILL NEED TO LAY OUT THE BAIT...
FORGET IT FOR NOW.
To Seki-sensei
Please read!
FLIT
パラ…
...

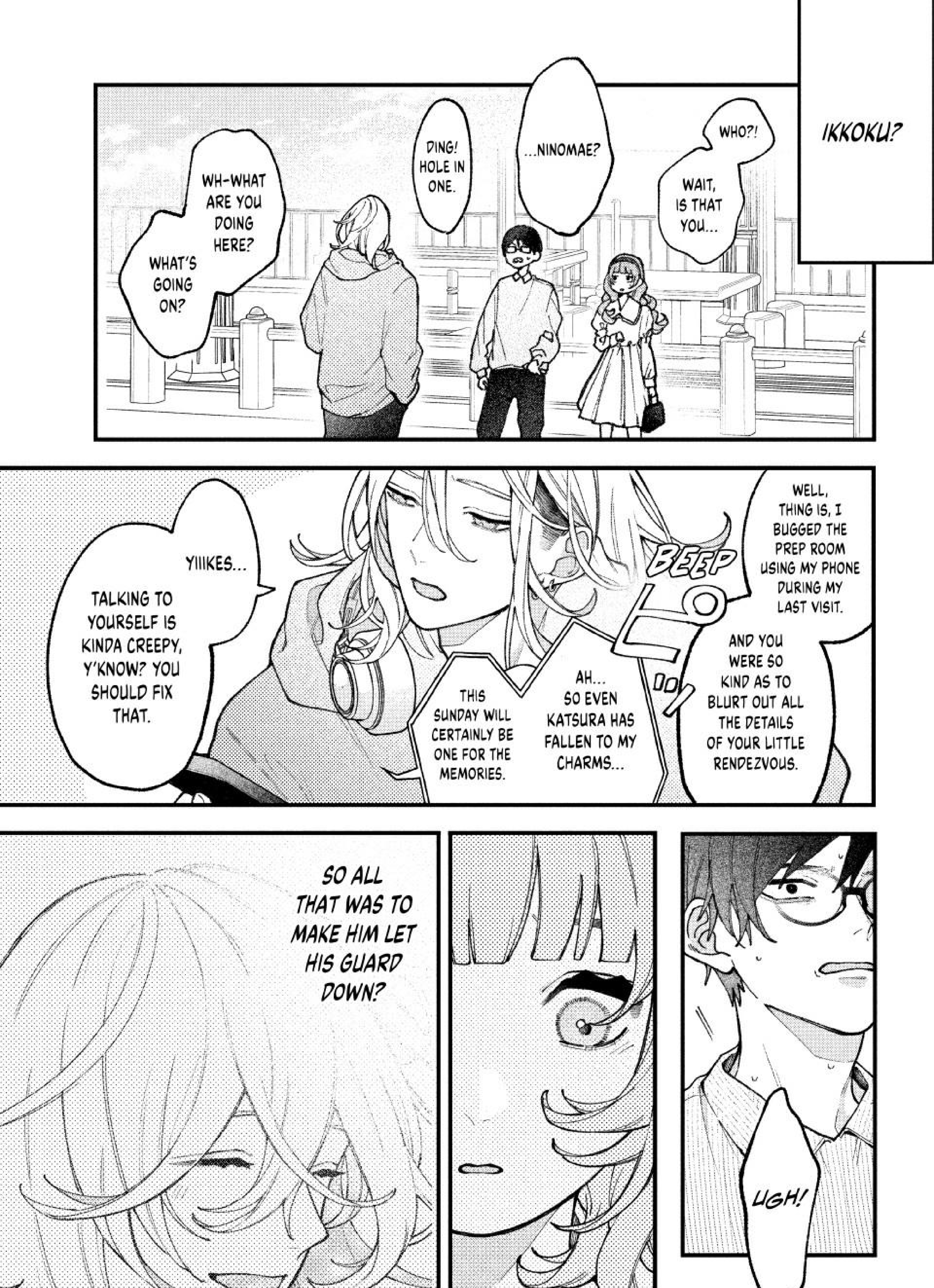

12:59
Sunday
コッ TOK
コッ TOK

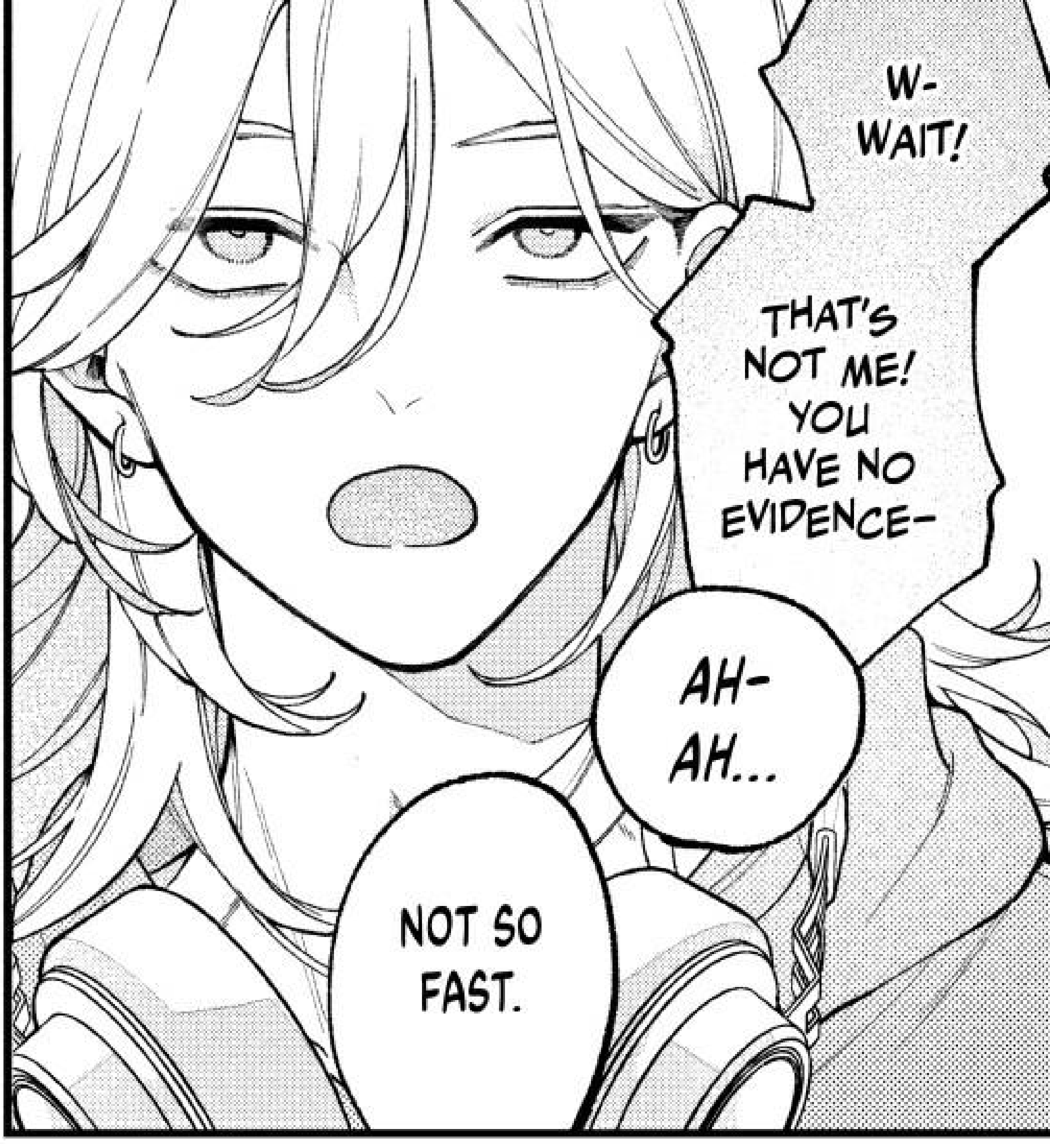

I'M SORRY, DID I KEEP YOU WAITING?
NO...
HA! I BET HE'S OVERWHELMED. I DON'T BLAME HIM. I WAS ALREADY A PERFECT BEAUTY BEFORE, BUT NOW THAT I'M ALL DOLLED UP, I MIGHT AS WELL BE EQUAL TO A GODDESS IN THE FLESH!
LITTLE DOES HE KNOW, I STUFFED A RECORDER IN MY BAG. NOW I JUST HAVE TO ACT A LITTLE CUTE, AND HIS MOUTH'S GONNA DO THE REST OF THE WORK FOR ME. THE CLASSIC HONEY TRAP!
もじ… FIDGET
UMM...
SO YOU SAW MY... MESSAGE?
I'M SO HAPPY... I CAN'T BELIEVE I GET TO MEET YOU ON A SUNDAY, SENSEI...

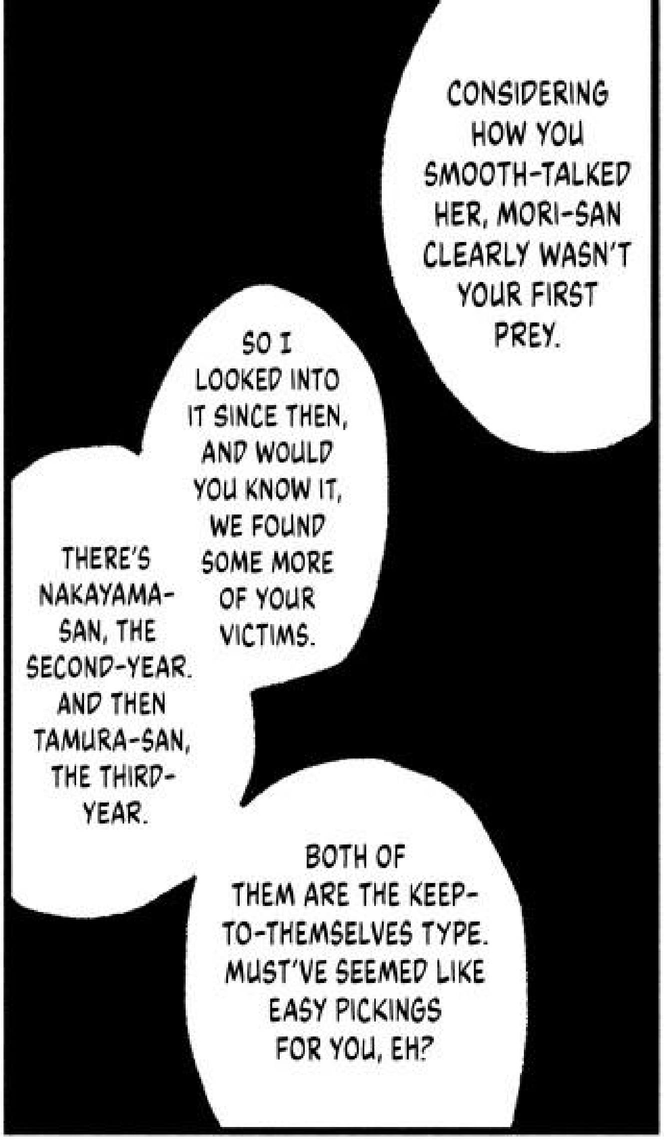

ONCE I'VE RECORDED SOME INCRIMINATING WORDS...
I'LL SHAKE HIM OFF AND LEAVE HIM—
ガバッ
FWUP
HUH?!
KATSURA...
NO... OTOGI!
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, OTOGI!
はあ HUFF
EWW! WHAT THE HELL?!
STOP...
OW!
SEKI-SENSEI... STOP!

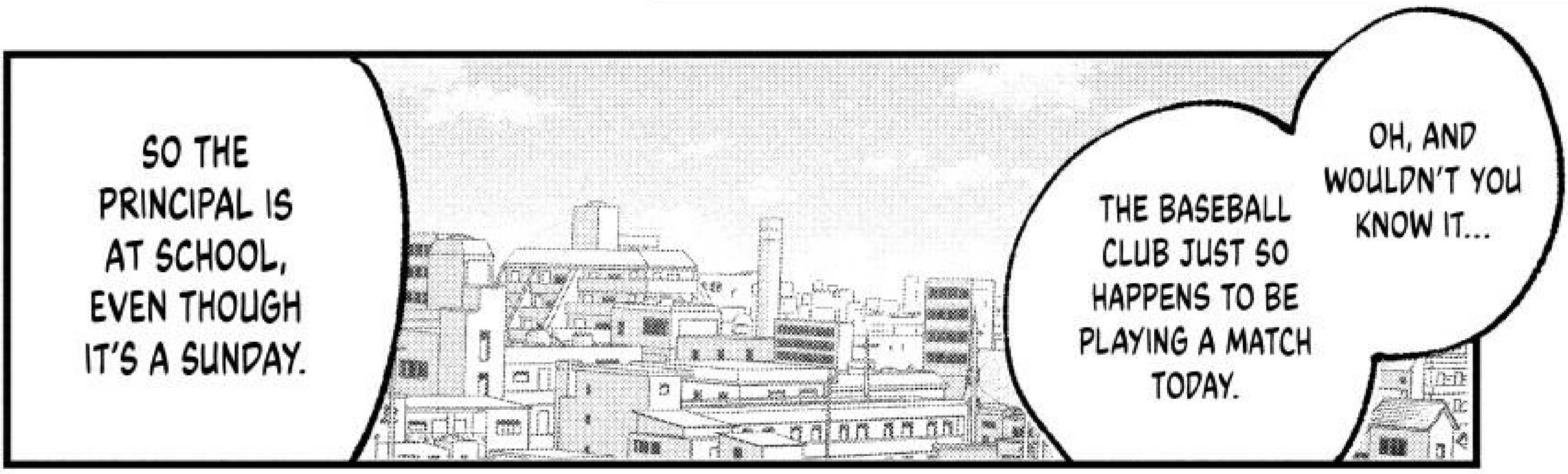

OH SHOOT...
THIS IS BAD.
HE'S EVEN MORE OF A HORNY BASTARD THAN I THOUGHT.
I UNDERESTIMATED MY OWN BEAUTY.
I SHOULD'VE REALIZED THAT IF A TRUE GODDESS SUDDENLY DESCENDED IN FRONT OF HIM, HE'D TRY TO GRAB HER WITH EVERYTHING HE'S GOT.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I OVERLOOKED THIS SORT OF OBVIOUS OUTCOME!
TO THINK THAT THERE'D COME A DAY WHERE MY FLAWLESS BEAUTY WOULD TURN AGAINST ME...
...OW! WAIT, THIS ISN'T THE TIME FOR MONOLOGUES!
I NEED TO GET THIS DAMN CREEP OFF OF ME!
CRAP... HE'S NOT LETTING GO...
DAMMIT... OH GEEZ, HE'S SERIOUSLY OFF HIS DAMN ROCKER...
IF THIS KEEPS UP, I...

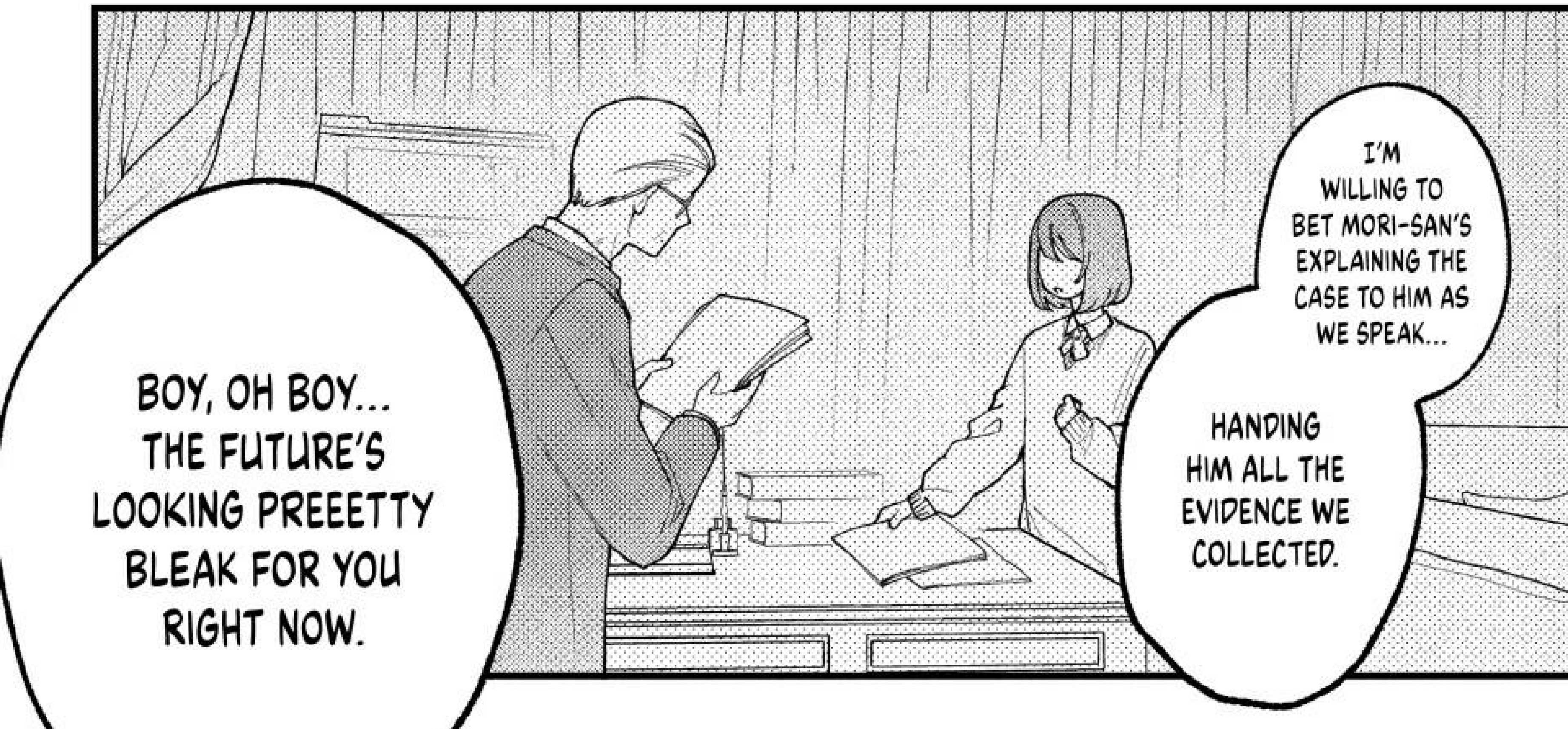

OH, YIIIKES...
THANKS FOR THE EXTRA EVIDENCE, *SEKI-SENSEI!*

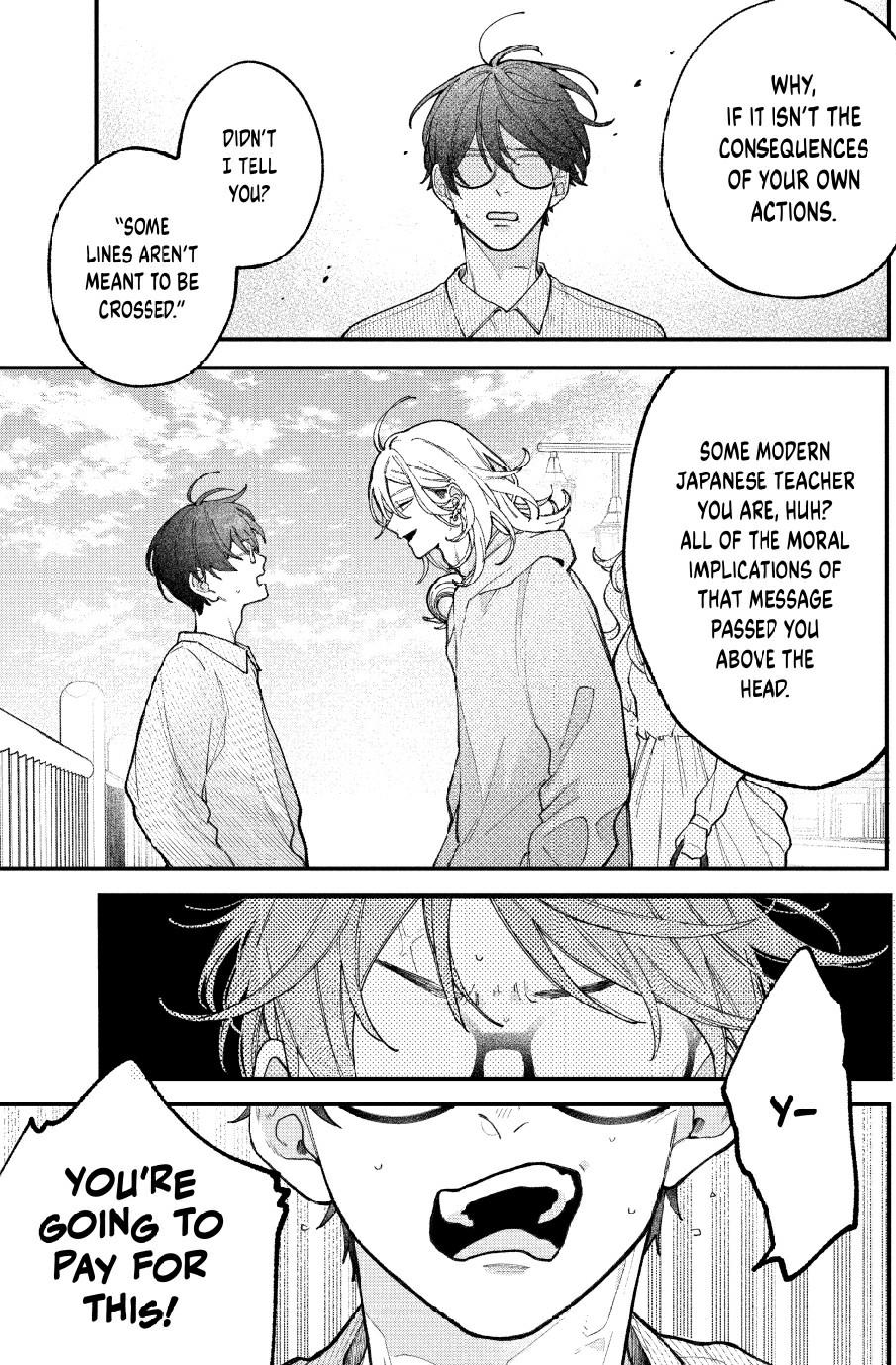

IKKOKU?
WHO?!
WAIT, IS THAT YOU...
...NINOMAE?
DING! HOLE IN ONE.
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WELL, THING IS, I BUGGED THE PREP ROOM USING MY PHONE DURING MY LAST VISIT.
AND YOU WERE SO KIND AS TO BLURT OUT ALL THE DETAILS OF YOUR LITTLE RENDEZVOUS.
BEEP
AH... SO EVEN KATSURA HAS FALLEN TO MY CHARMS...
THIS SUNDAY WILL CERTAINLY BE ONE FOR THE MEMORIES.
YIIIKES...
TALKING TO YOURSELF IS KINDA CREEPY, Y'KNOW? YOU SHOULD FIX THAT.
UGH!
SO ALL THAT WAS TO MAKE HIM LET HIS GUARD DOWN?

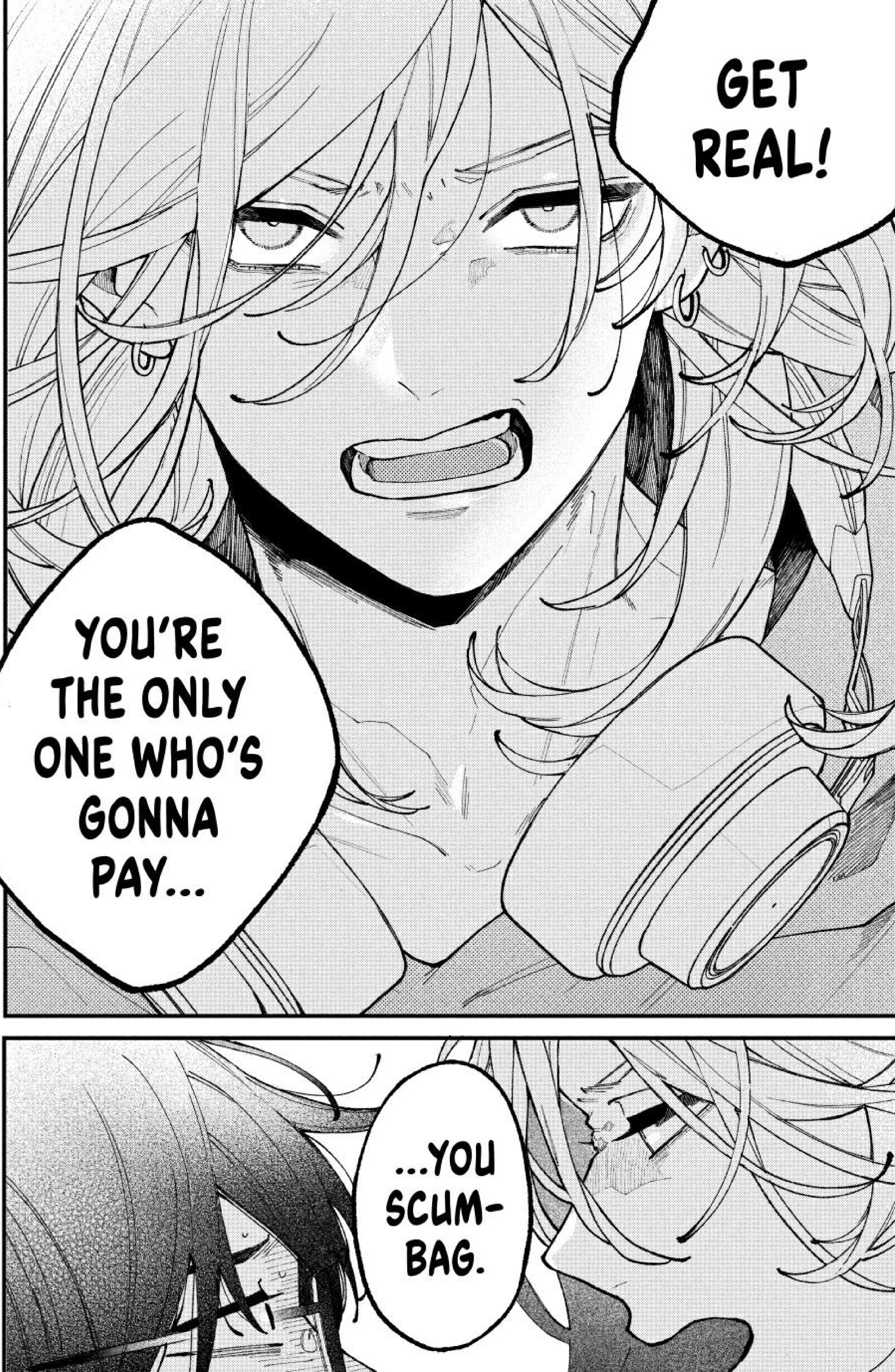

W- WAIT!
THAT'S NOT ME! YOU HAVE NO EVIDENCE-
AH- AH...
NOT SO FAST.

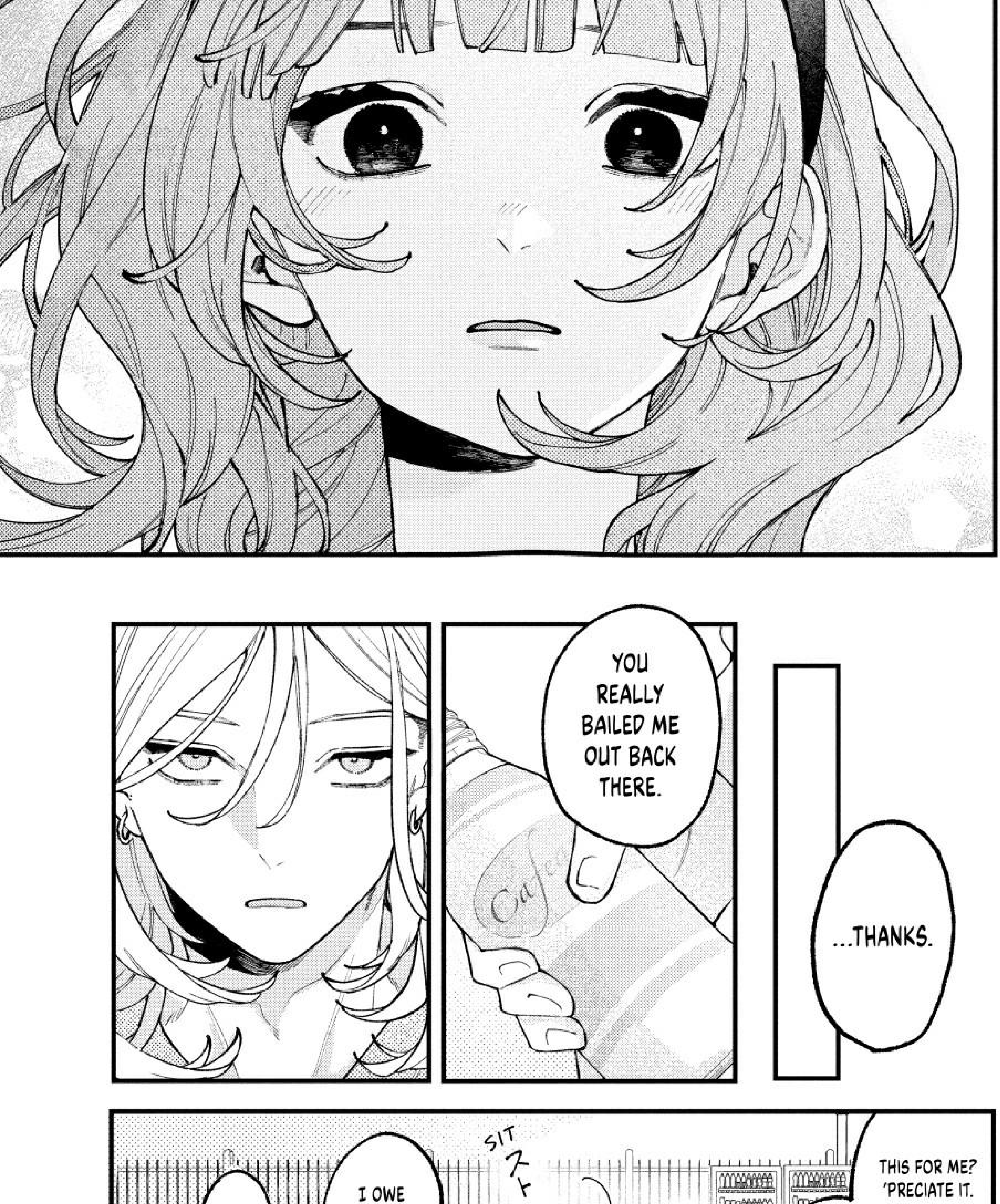

CONSIDERING HOW YOU SMOOTH-TALKED HER, MORI-SAN CLEARLY WASN'T YOUR FIRST PREY.
SO I LOOKED INTO IT SINCE THEN, AND WOULD YOU KNOW IT, WE FOUND SOME MORE OF YOUR VICTIMS.
THERE'S NAKAYAMA-SAN, THE SECOND-YEAR. AND THEN TAMURA-SAN, THE THIRD-YEAR.
BOTH OF THEM ARE THE KEEP-TO-THEMSELVES TYPE. MUST'VE SEEMED LIKE EASY PICKINGS FOR YOU, EH?

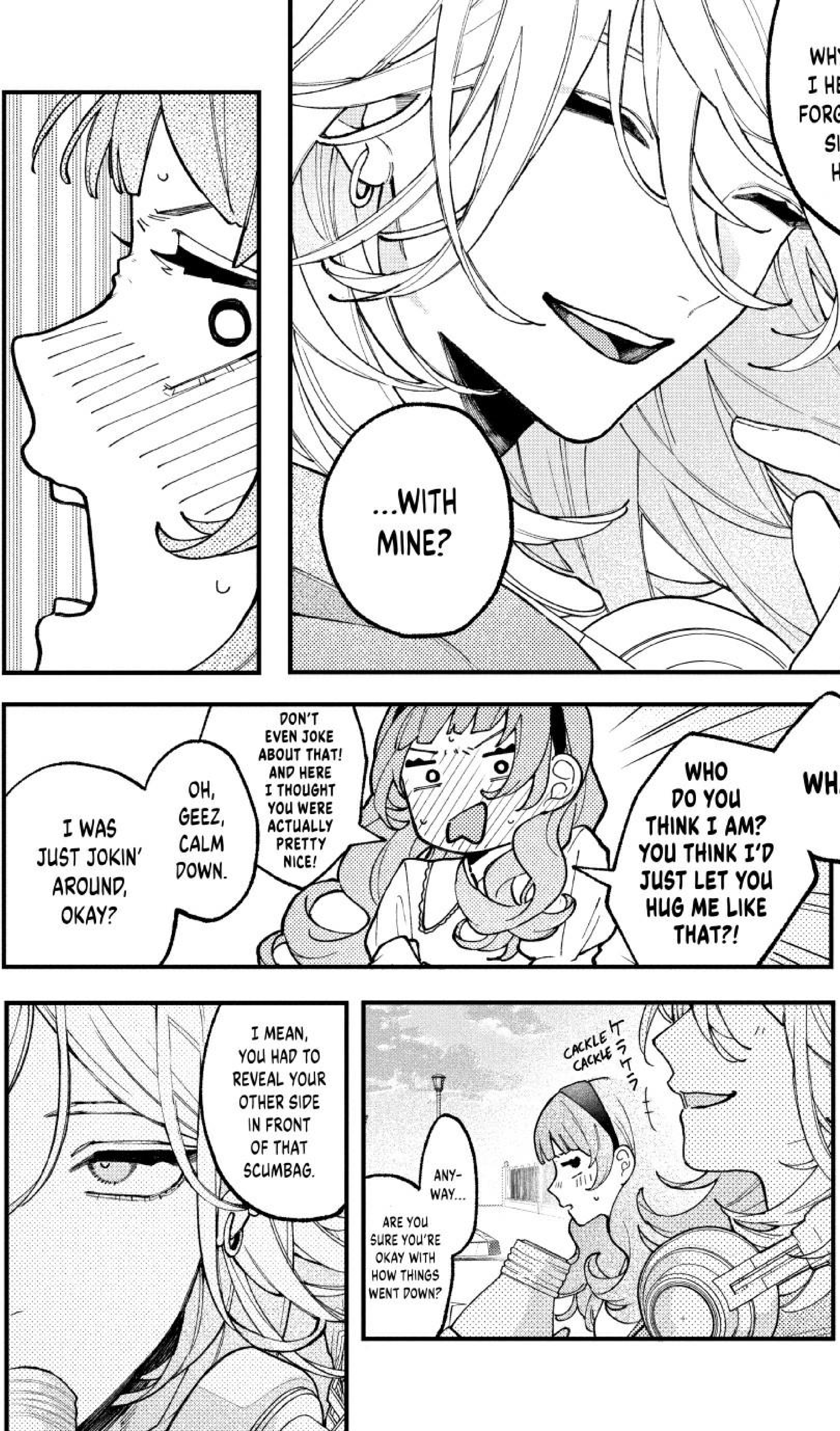

OH, AND WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT...
THE BASEBALL CLUB JUST SO HAPPENS TO BE PLAYING A MATCH TODAY.
SO THE PRINCIPAL IS AT SCHOOL, EVEN THOUGH IT'S A SUNDAY.

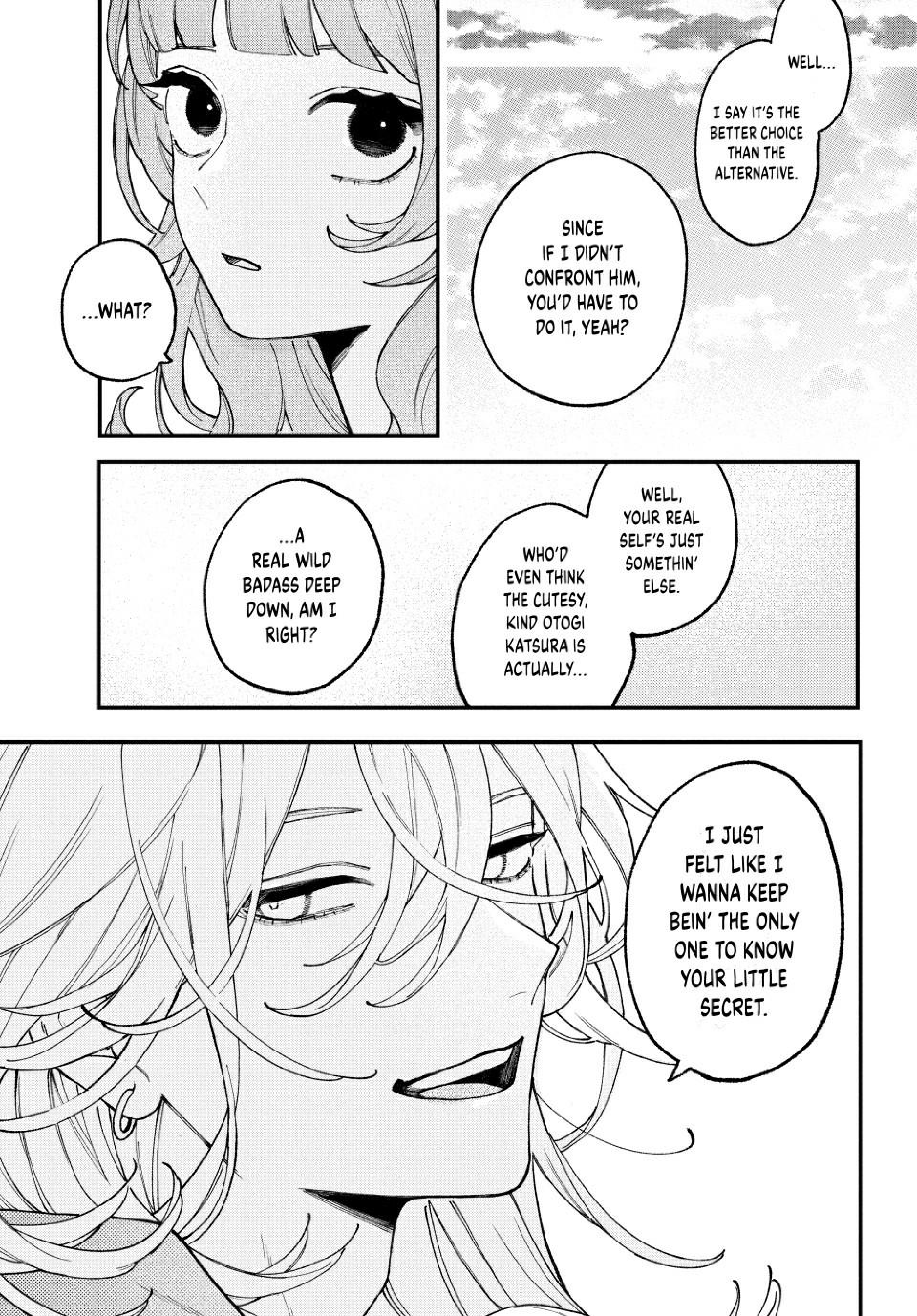

I'M WILLING TO BET MORI-SAN'S EXPLAINING THE CASE TO HIM AS WE SPEAK...
HANDING HIM ALL THE EVIDENCE WE COLLECTED.
BOY, OH BOY... THE FUTURE'S LOOKING PREEETTY BLEAK FOR YOU RIGHT NOW.

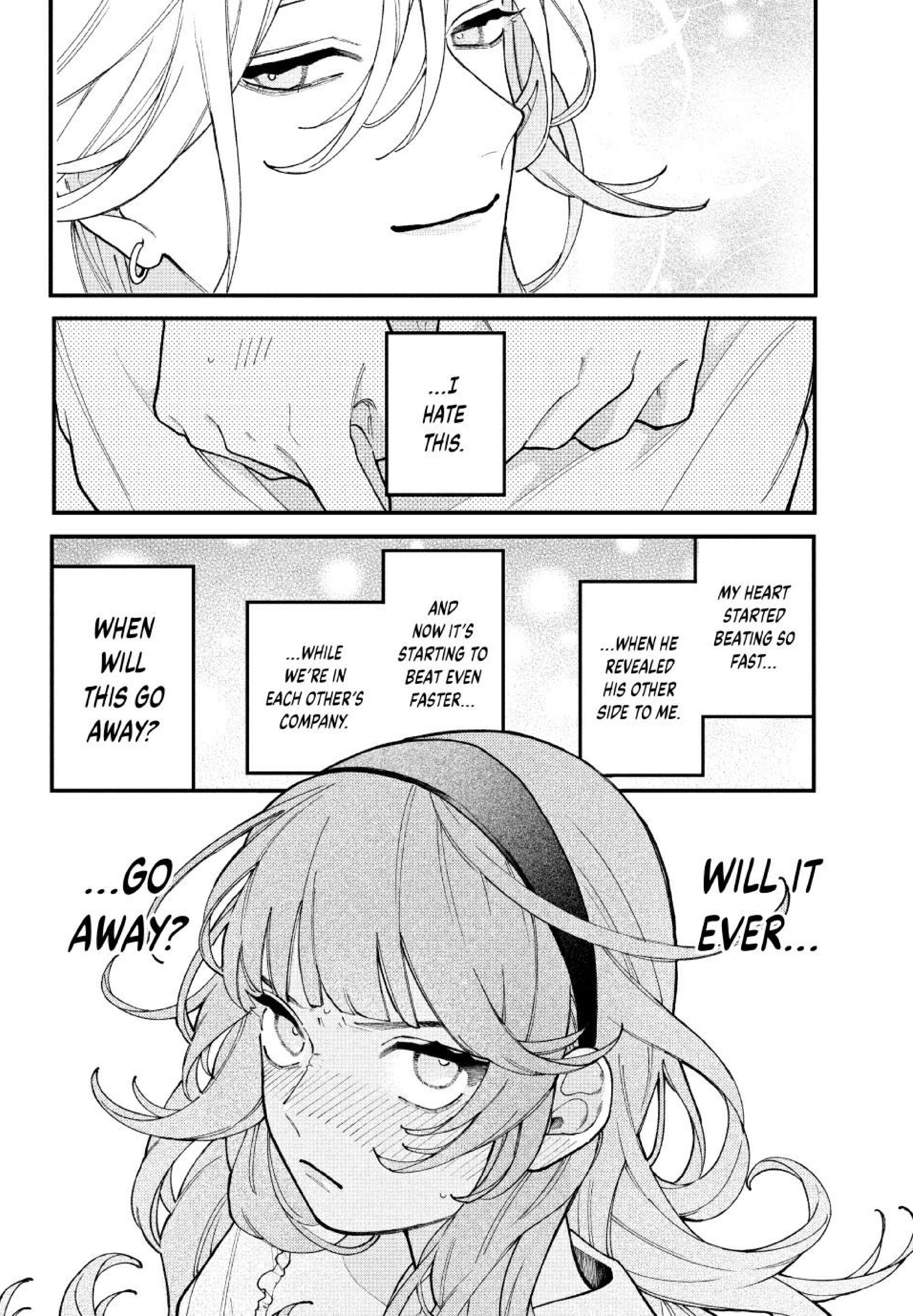

WHY, IF IT ISN'T THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR OWN ACTIONS.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU? "SOME LINES AREN'T MEANT TO BE CROSSED."
SOME MODERN JAPANESE TEACHER YOU ARE, HUH? ALL OF THE MORAL IMPLICATIONS OF THAT MESSAGE PASSED YOU ABOVE THE HEAD.
Y–
YOU'RE GOING TO PAY FOR THIS!

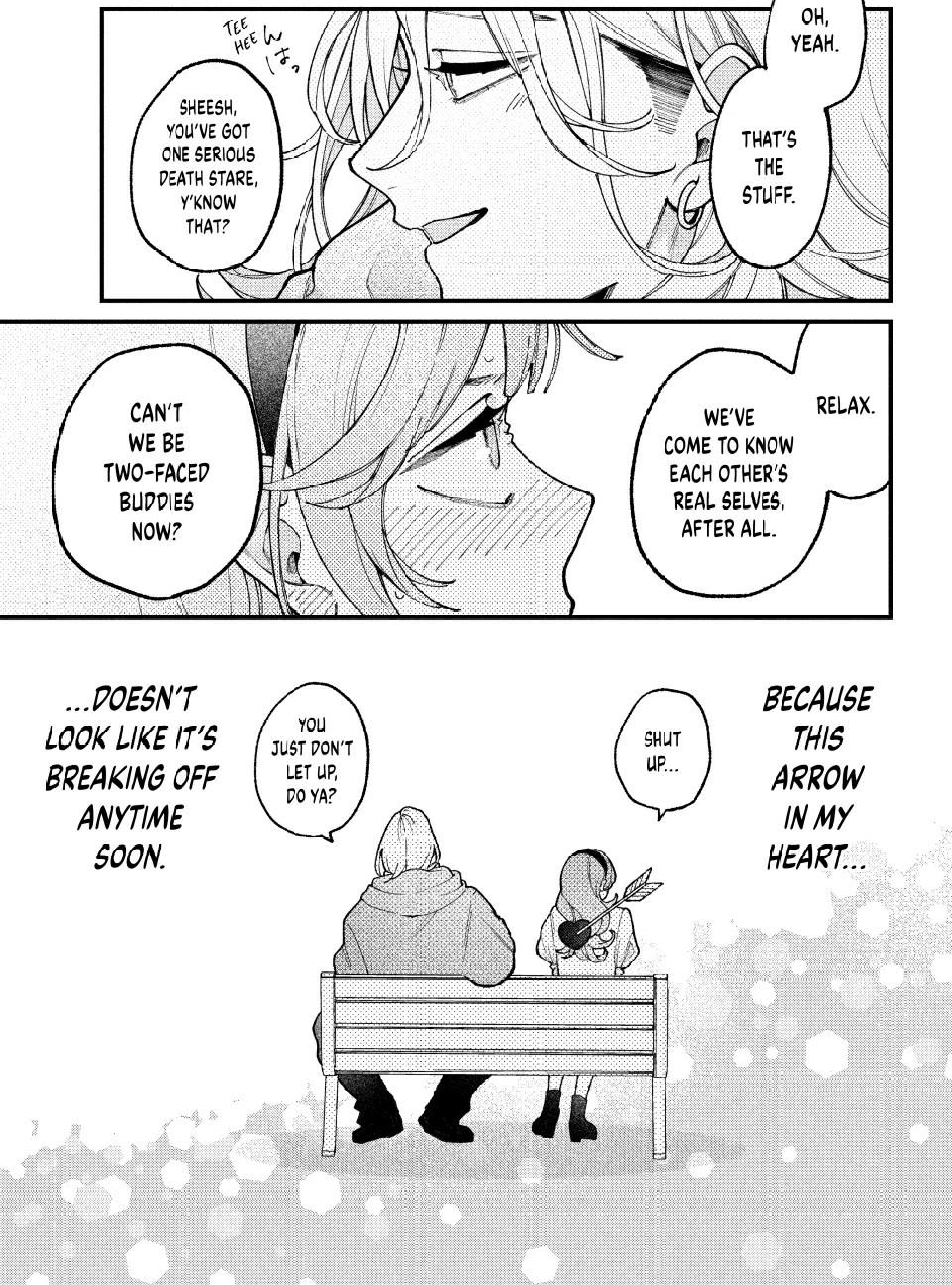

GET REAL!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S GONNA PAY...
...YOU SCUMBAG.


...THANKS.
YOU REALLY BAILED ME OUT BACK THERE.
THIS FOR ME? 'PRECIATE IT. LEFT MY CASH BACK HOME.
HOPE YOU'RE NOT GONNA ASK ME TO PAY IT BACK, THOUGH.
SIT
ストンッ
I OWE YOU ONE, ANYWAY.
JUST TAKE IT.
REAA-ALLY?
OH, WAIT. I'VE GOT AN IDEA...


WHY DON'T I HELP YOU FORGET THAT SICKO'S HUG...
...WITH MINE?
WHA—
WHO DO YOU THINK I AM? YOU THINK I'D JUST LET YOU HUG ME LIKE THAT?!
DON'T EVEN JOKE ABOUT THAT! AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU WERE ACTUALLY PRETTY NICE!
OH, GEEZ, CALM DOWN.
I WAS JUST JOKIN' AROUND, OKAY?
CACKLE CACKLE ケラケラ
ANY-WAY...
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY WITH HOW THINGS WENT DOWN?
I MEAN, YOU HAD TO REVEAL YOUR OTHER SIDE IN FRONT OF THAT SCUMBAG.


WELL...
I SAY IT'S THE BETTER CHOICE THAN THE ALTERNATIVE.
SINCE IF I DIDN'T CONFRONT HIM, YOU'D HAVE TO DO IT, YEAH?
...WHAT?
WELL, YOUR REAL SELF'S JUST SOMETHIN' ELSE.
WHO'D EVEN THINK THE CUTESY, KIND OTOGI KATSURA IS ACTUALLY...
...A REAL WILD BADASS DEEP DOWN, AM I RIGHT?
I JUST FELT LIKE I WANNA KEEP BEIN' THE ONLY ONE TO KNOW YOUR LITTLE SECRET.

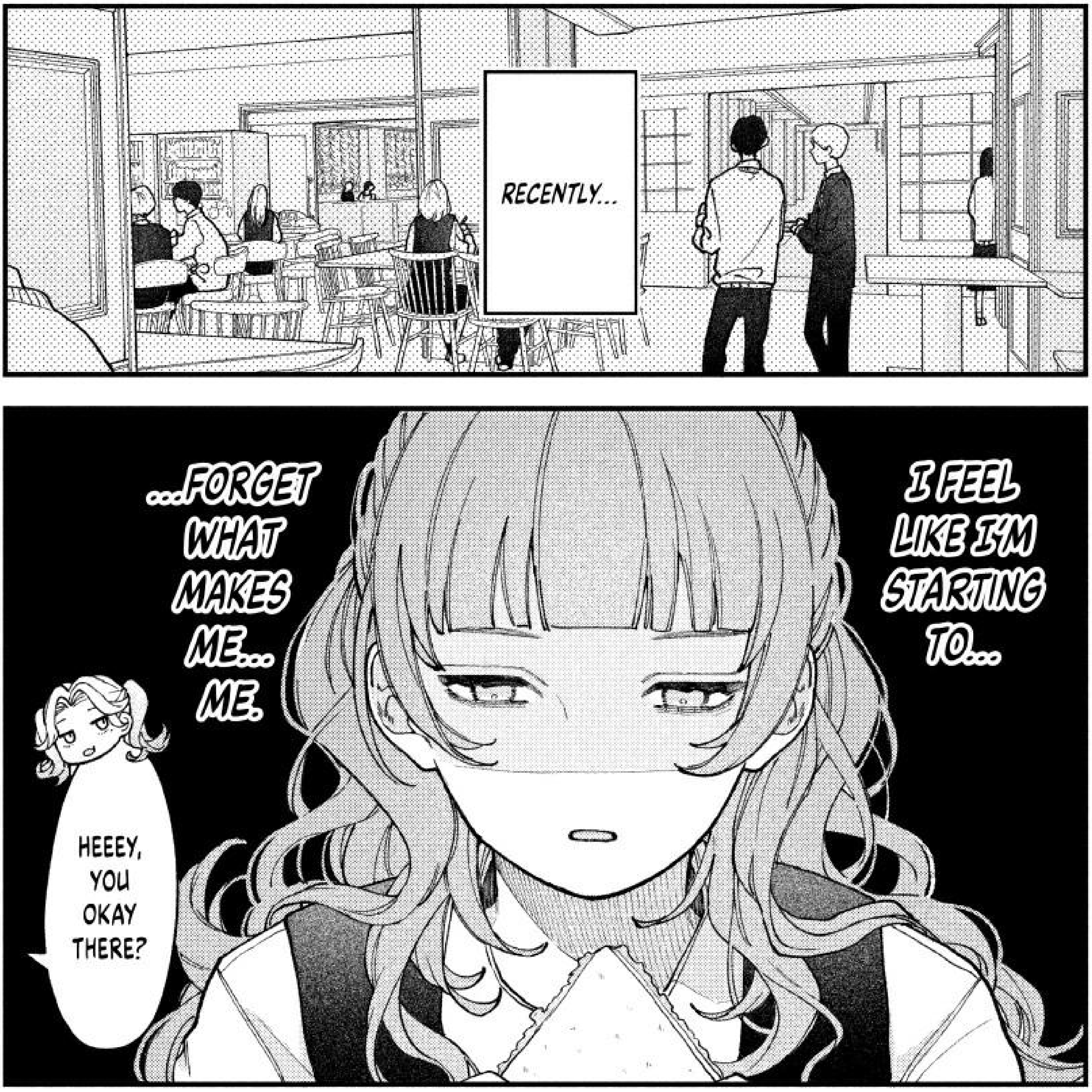

...I HATE THIS.
MY HEART STARTED BEATING SO FAST...
...WHEN HE REVEALED HIS OTHER SIDE TO ME.
AND NOW IT'S STARTING TO BEAT EVEN FASTER...
...WHILE WE'RE IN EACH OTHER'S COMPANY.
WHEN WILL THIS GO AWAY?
WILL IT EVER...
...GO AWAY?


OH, YEAH.
THAT'S THE STUFF.
TEE HEE んはっ
SHEESH, YOU'VE GOT ONE SERIOUS DEATH STARE, Y'KNOW THAT?
RELAX.
WE'VE COME TO KNOW EACH OTHER'S REAL SELVES, AFTER ALL.
CAN'T WE BE TWO-FACED BUDDIES NOW?
BECAUSE THIS ARROW IN MY HEART...
SHUT UP...
YOU JUST DON'T LET UP, DO YA?
...DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT'S BREAKING OFF ANYTIME SOON.

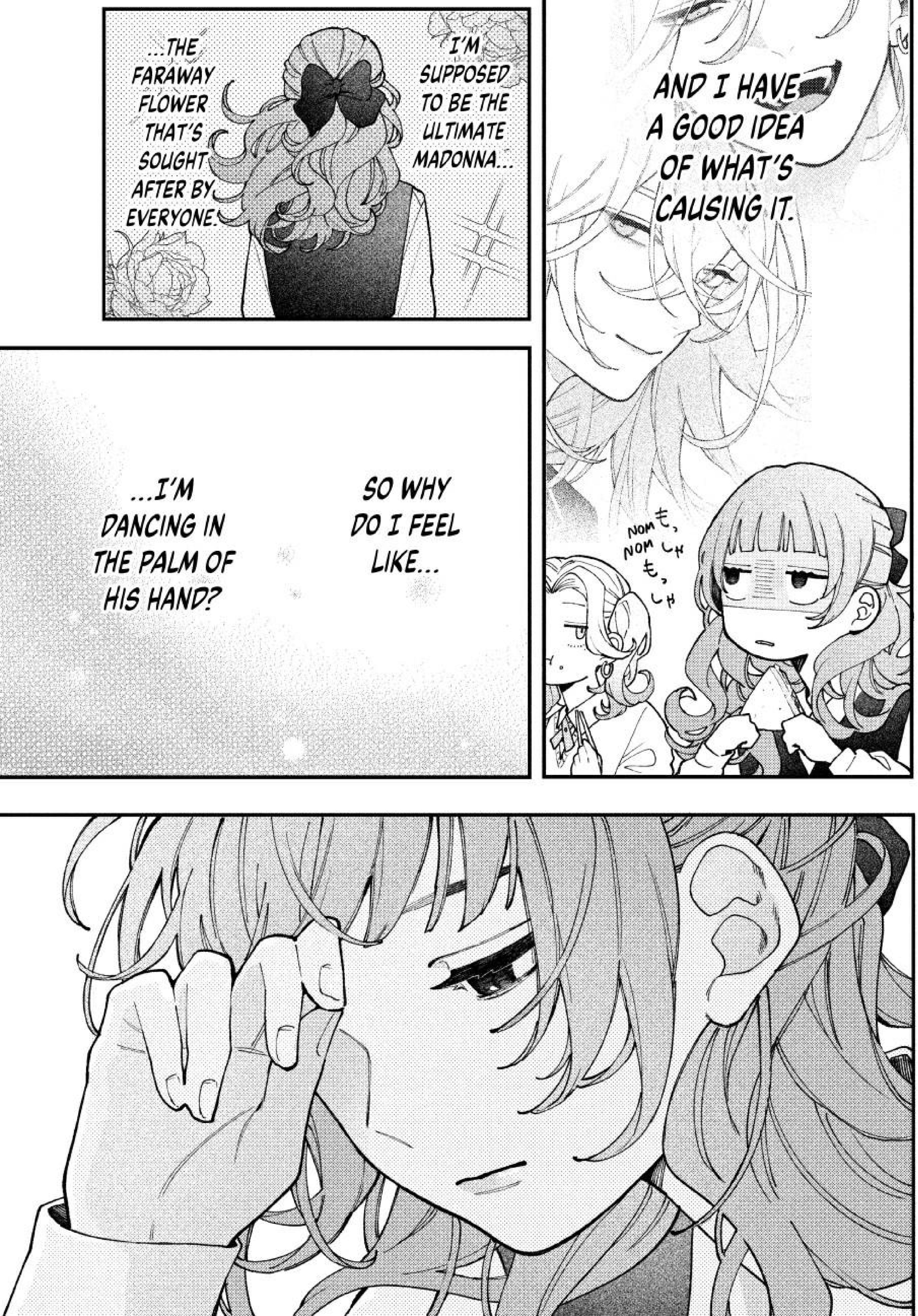
EP. 3

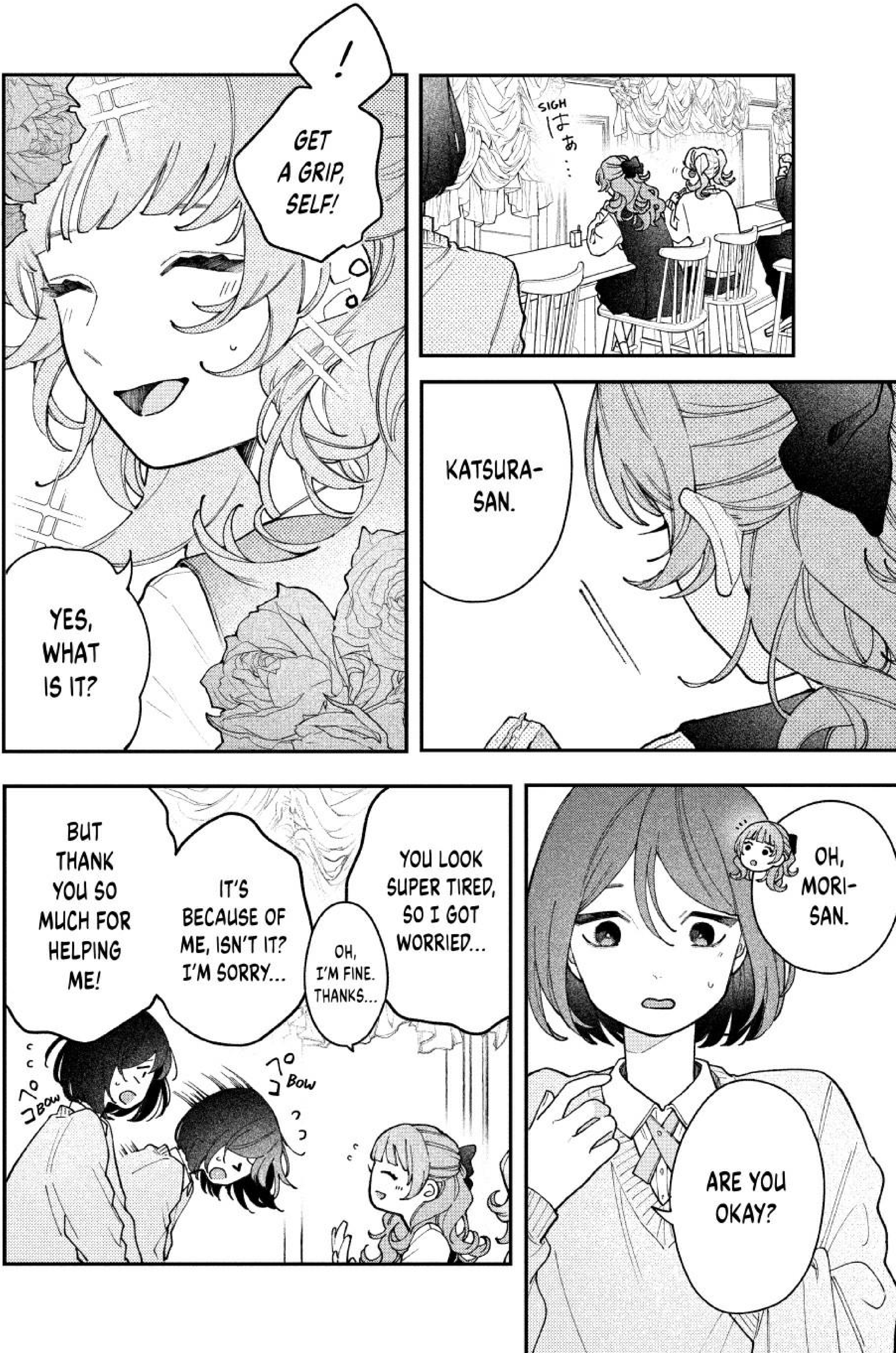
Blossoming Romance

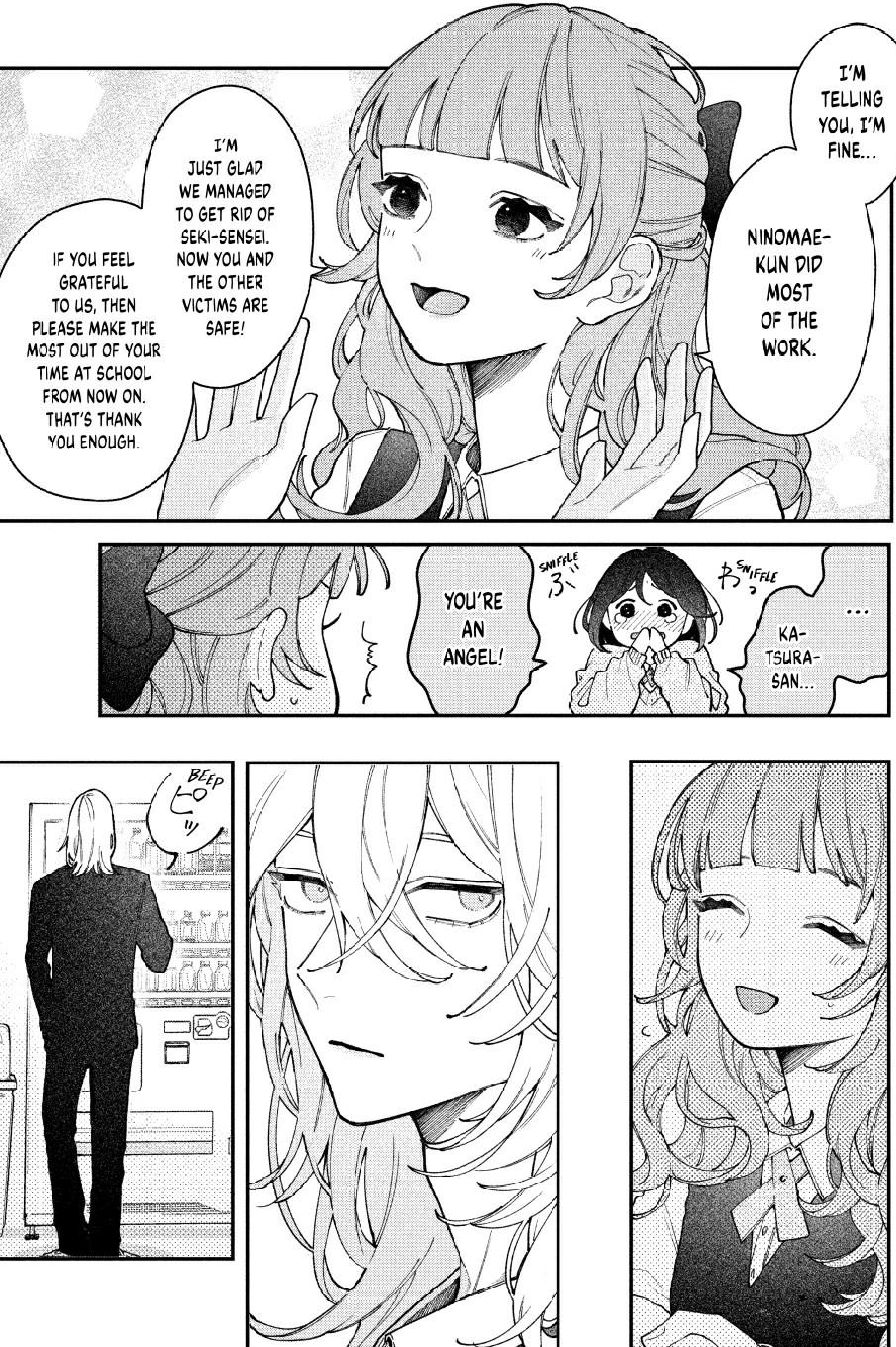
FALL IN LOVE, YOU FALSE ANGELS

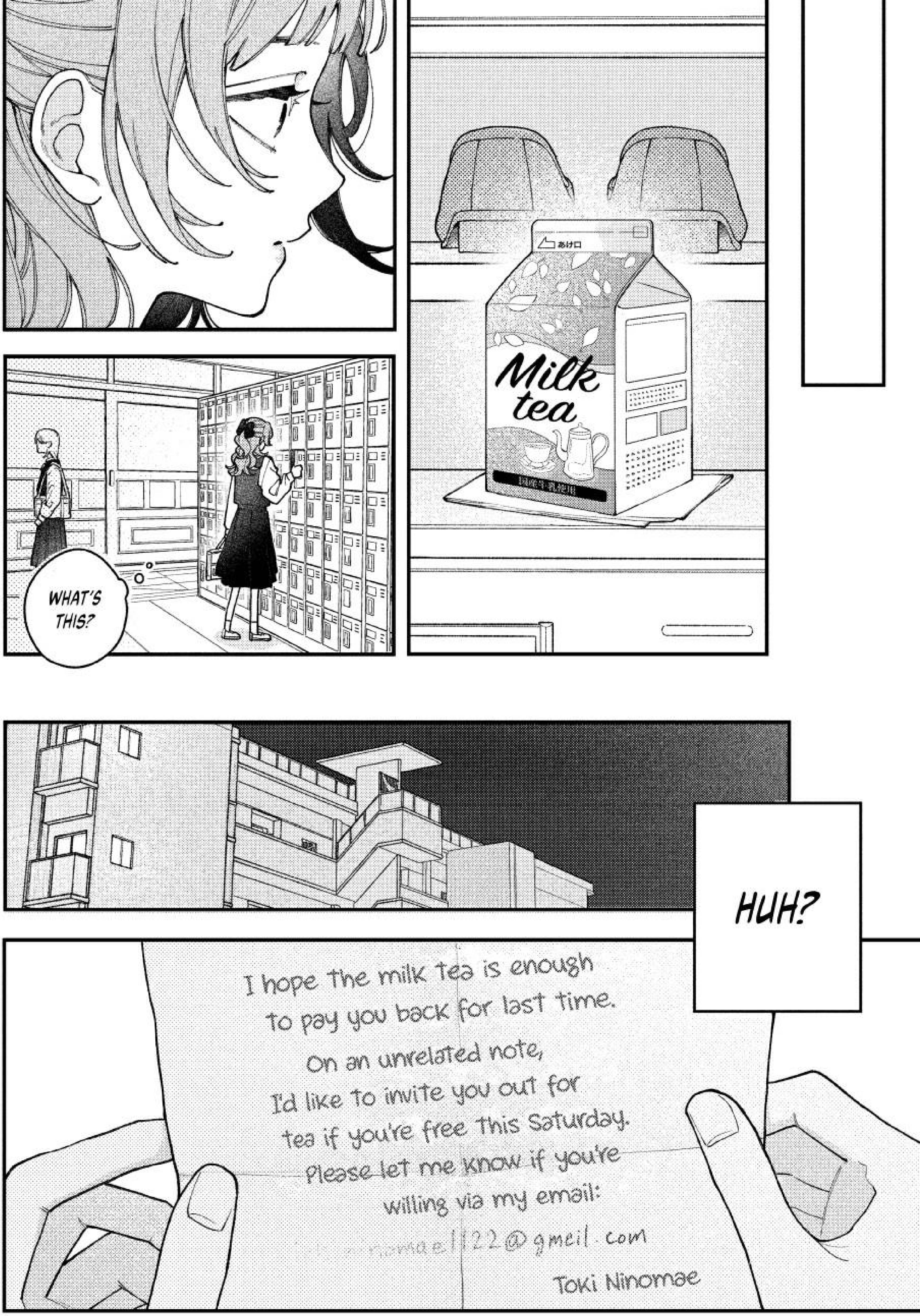

RECENTLY...
I FEEL LIKE I'M STARTING TO...
...FORGET WHAT MAKES ME... ME.
HEEEY, YOU OKAY THERE?

Fall in Love,
You False Angels

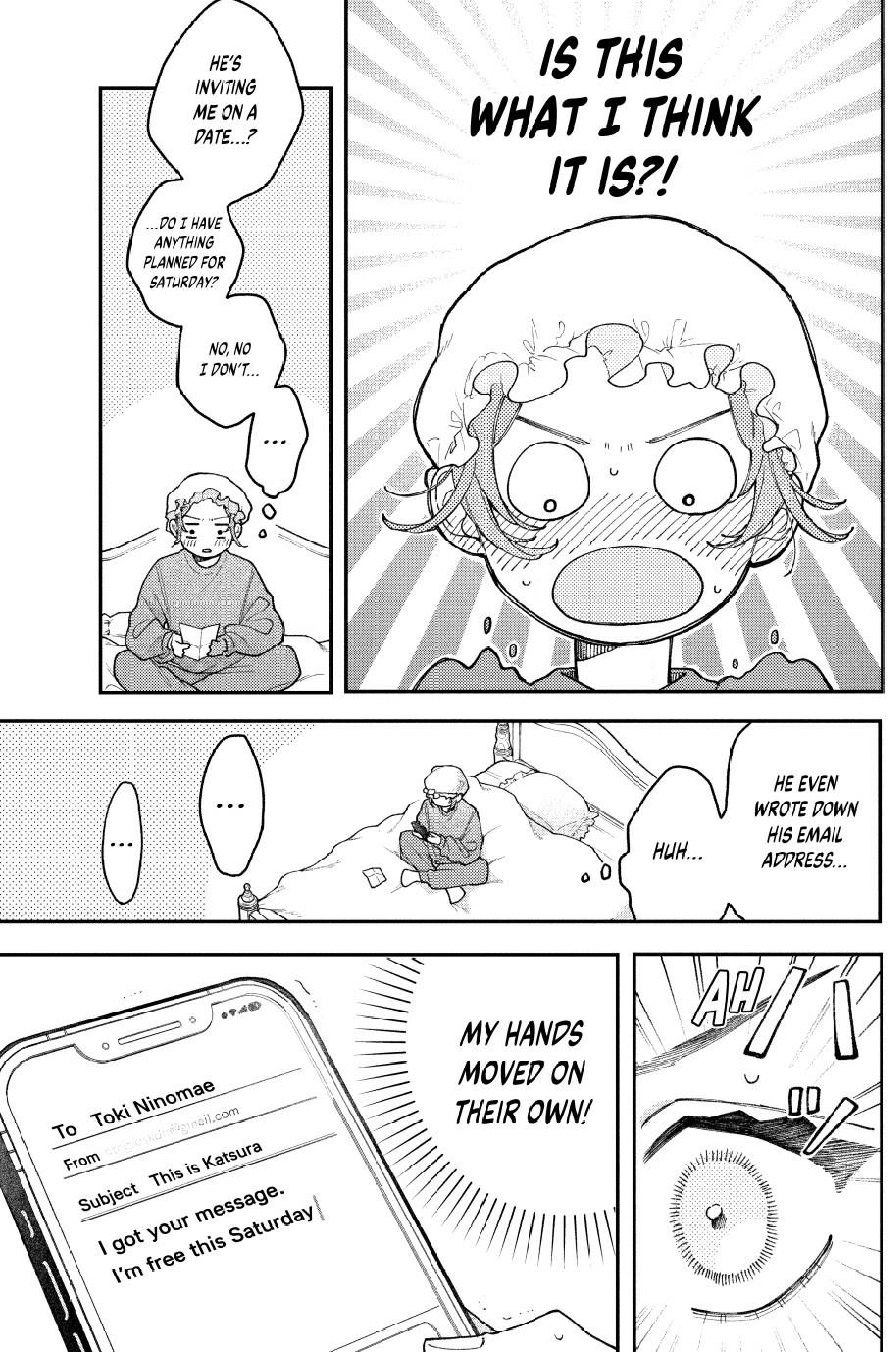

AND I HAVE A GOOD IDEA OF WHAT'S CAUSING IT.
NOM も、 NOM しゃ もっしゃ
I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THE ULTIMATE MADONNA...
...THE FARAWAY FLOWER THAT'S SOUGHT AFTER BY EVERYONE.
SO WHY DO I FEEL LIKE...
...I'M DANCING IN THE PALM OF HIS HAND?


SIGH はぁ…
KATSURA-SAN.
!
GET A GRIP, SELF!
YES, WHAT IS IT?
OH, MORI-SAN.
ARE YOU OKAY?
YOU LOOK SUPER TIRED, SO I GOT WORRIED…
OH, I'M FINE. THANKS…
IT'S BECAUSE OF ME, ISN'T IT? I'M SORRY…
BUT THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING ME!
ペコ BOW
ペコ BOW


I'M TELLING YOU, I'M FINE...
NINOMAE-KUN DID MOST OF THE WORK.
I'M JUST GLAD WE MANAGED TO GET RID OF SEKI-SENSEI. NOW YOU AND THE OTHER VICTIMS ARE SAFE!
IF YOU FEEL GRATEFUL TO US, THEN PLEASE MAKE THE MOST OUT OF YOUR TIME AT SCHOOL FROM NOW ON. THAT'S THANK YOU ENOUGH.
... KATSURA-SAN...
SNIFFLE
SNIFFLE
YOU'RE AN ANGEL!
BEEP
ピッ

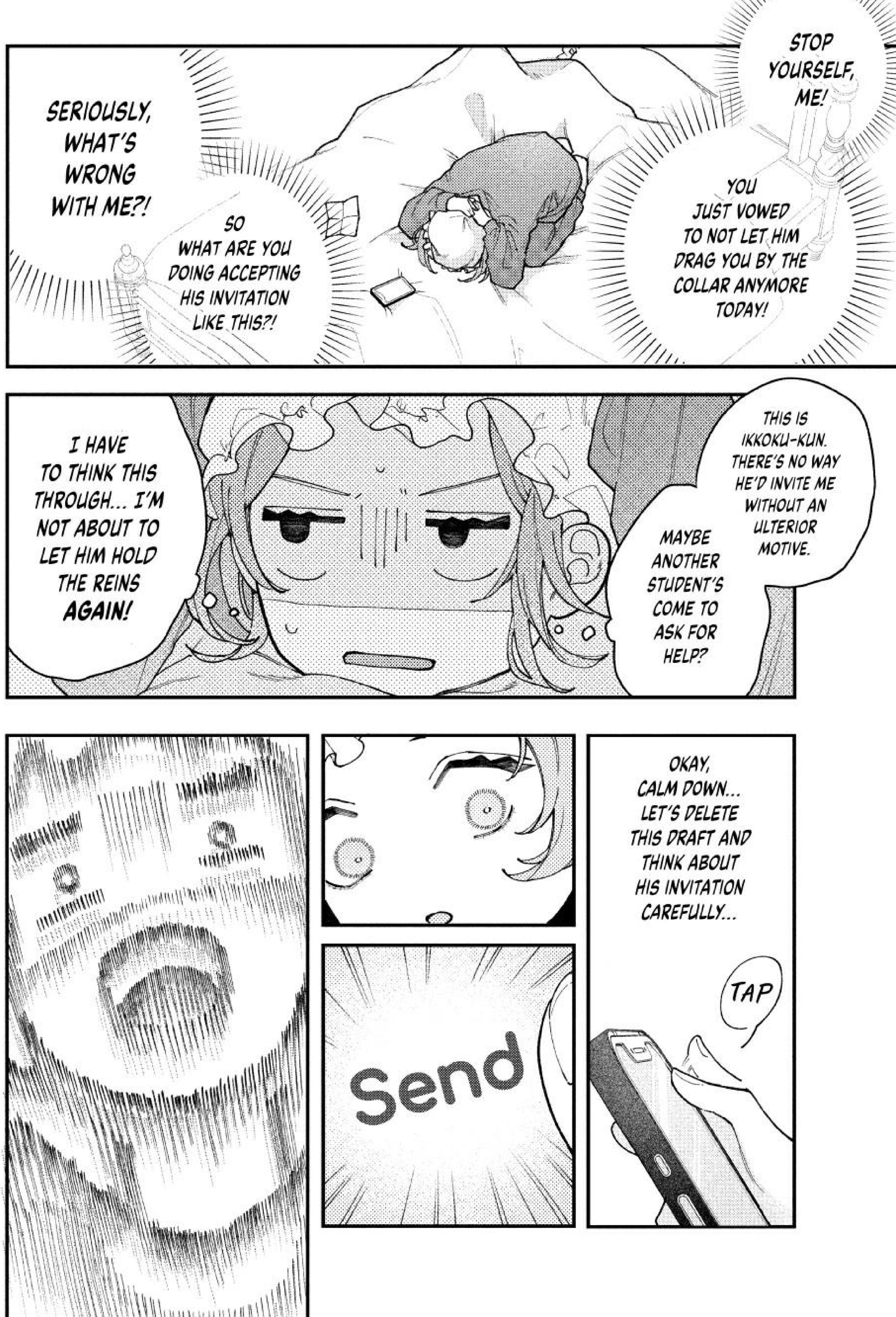

あけ口
Milk tea
WHAT'S THIS?
HUH?

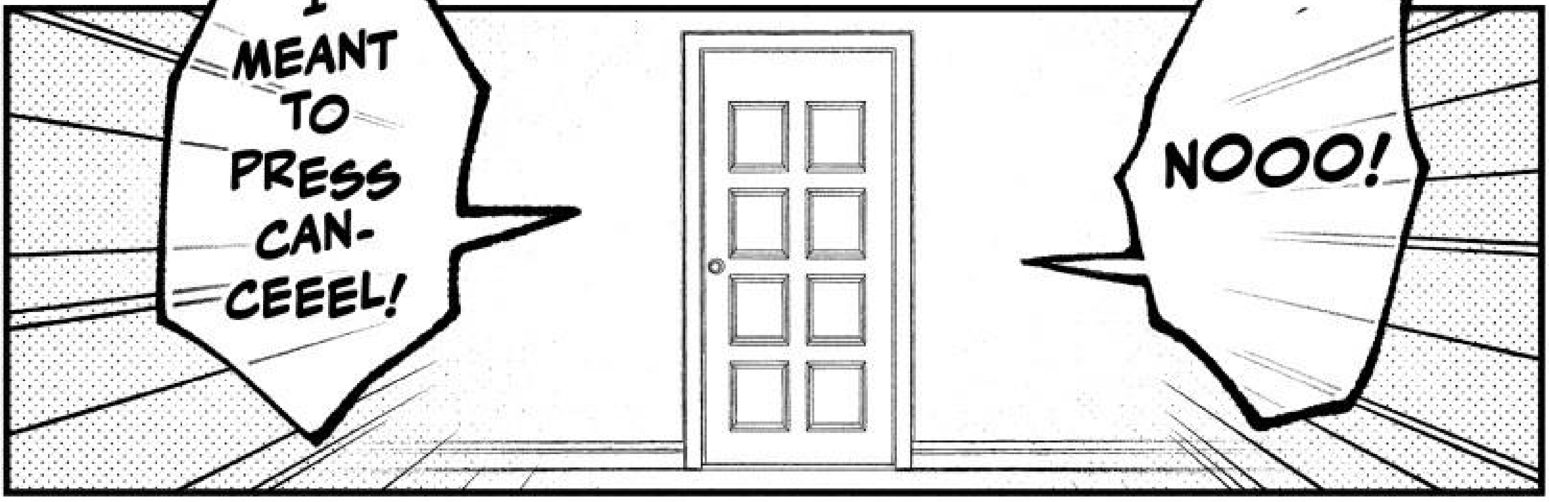
I hope the milk tea is enough
to pay you back for last time.
On an unrelated note,
I'd like to invite you out for
tea if you're free this Saturday.
Please let me know if you're
willing via my email:
[illegible]nomae1122@gmeil.com
Toki Ninomae

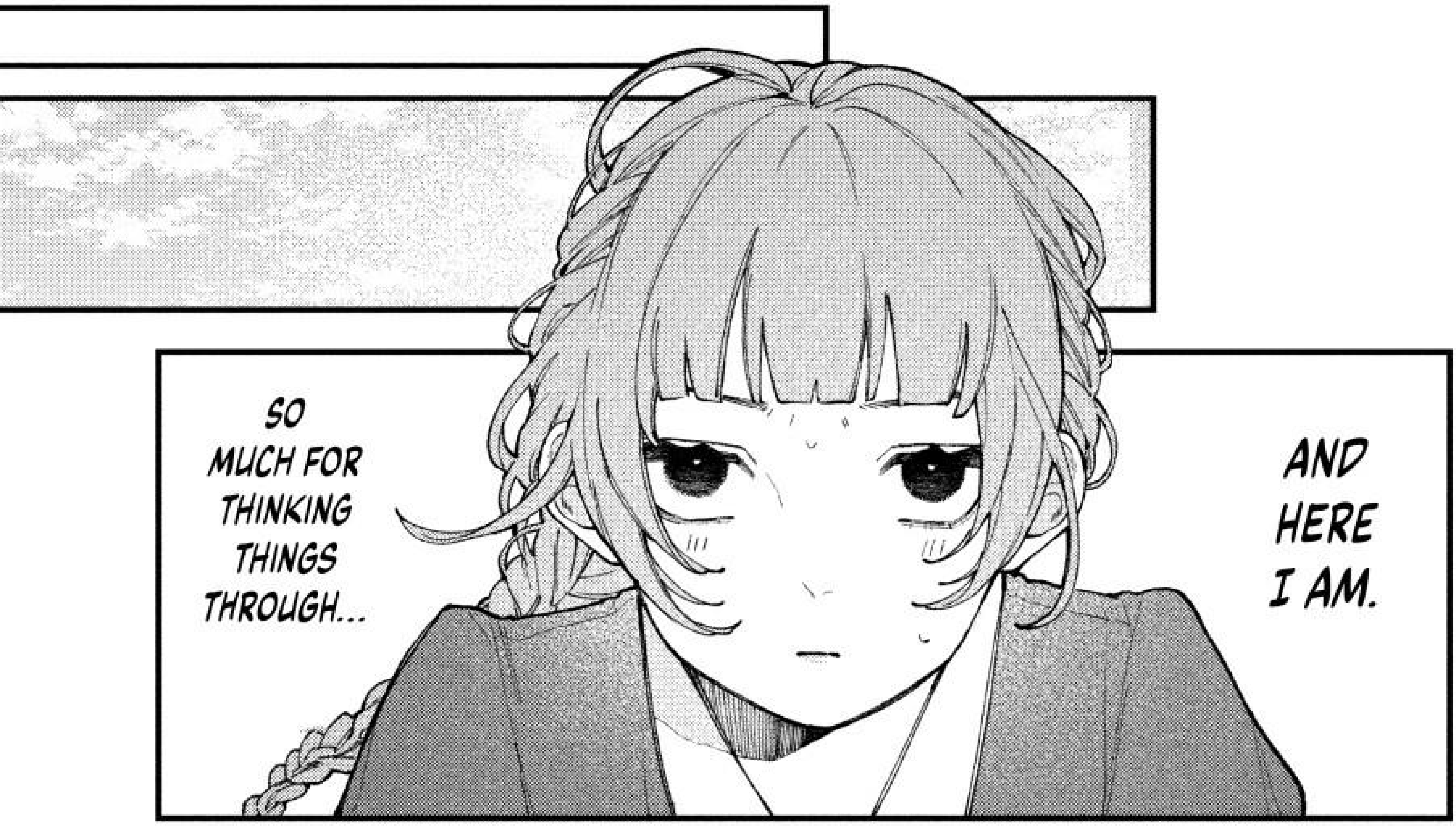

HE'S INVITING ME ON A DATE...?
...DO I HAVE ANYTHING PLANNED FOR SATURDAY?
NO, NO I DON'T...
...
IS THIS WHAT I THINK IT IS?!
...
...
HUH...
HE EVEN WROTE DOWN HIS EMAIL ADDRESS...
MY HANDS MOVED ON THEIR OWN!
AH!!

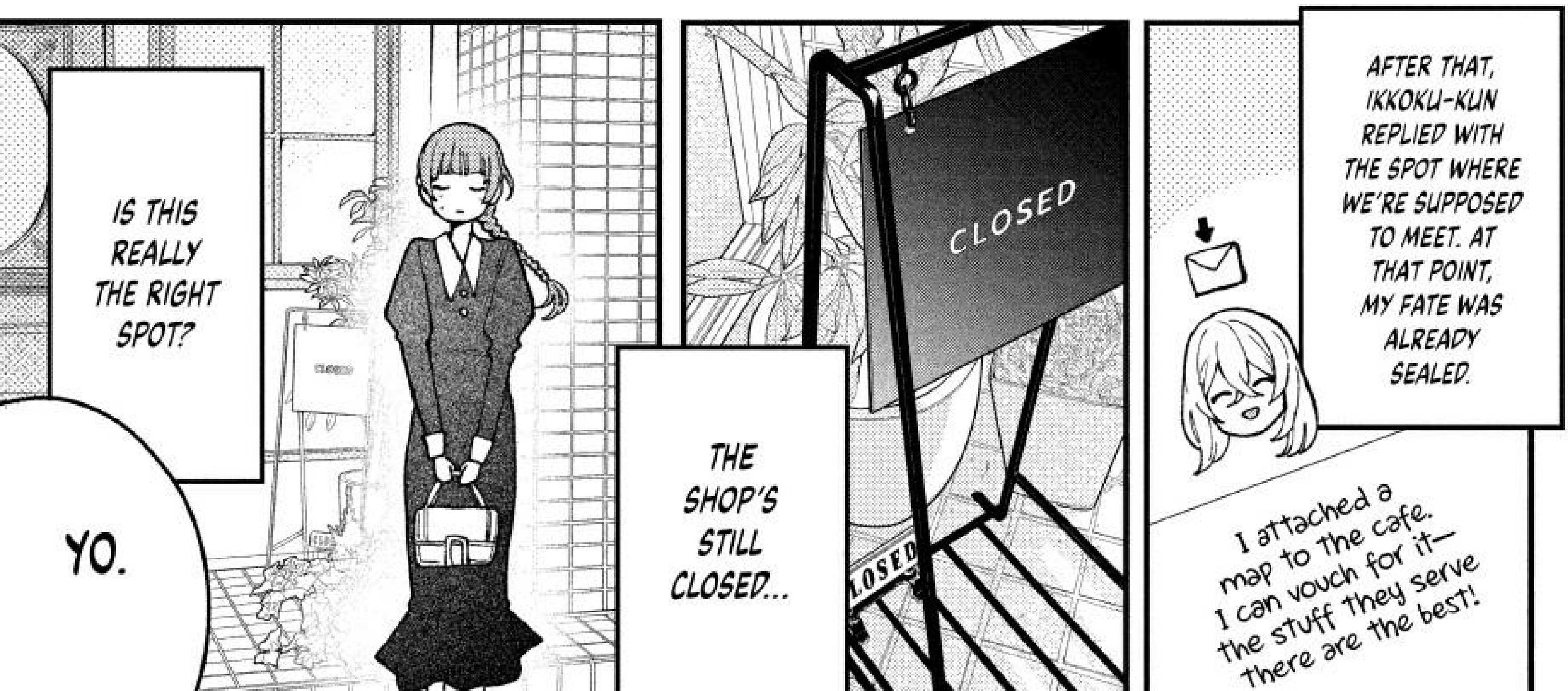
To Toki Ninomae [illegible]@gmail.com
From [illegible]
Subject This is Katsura

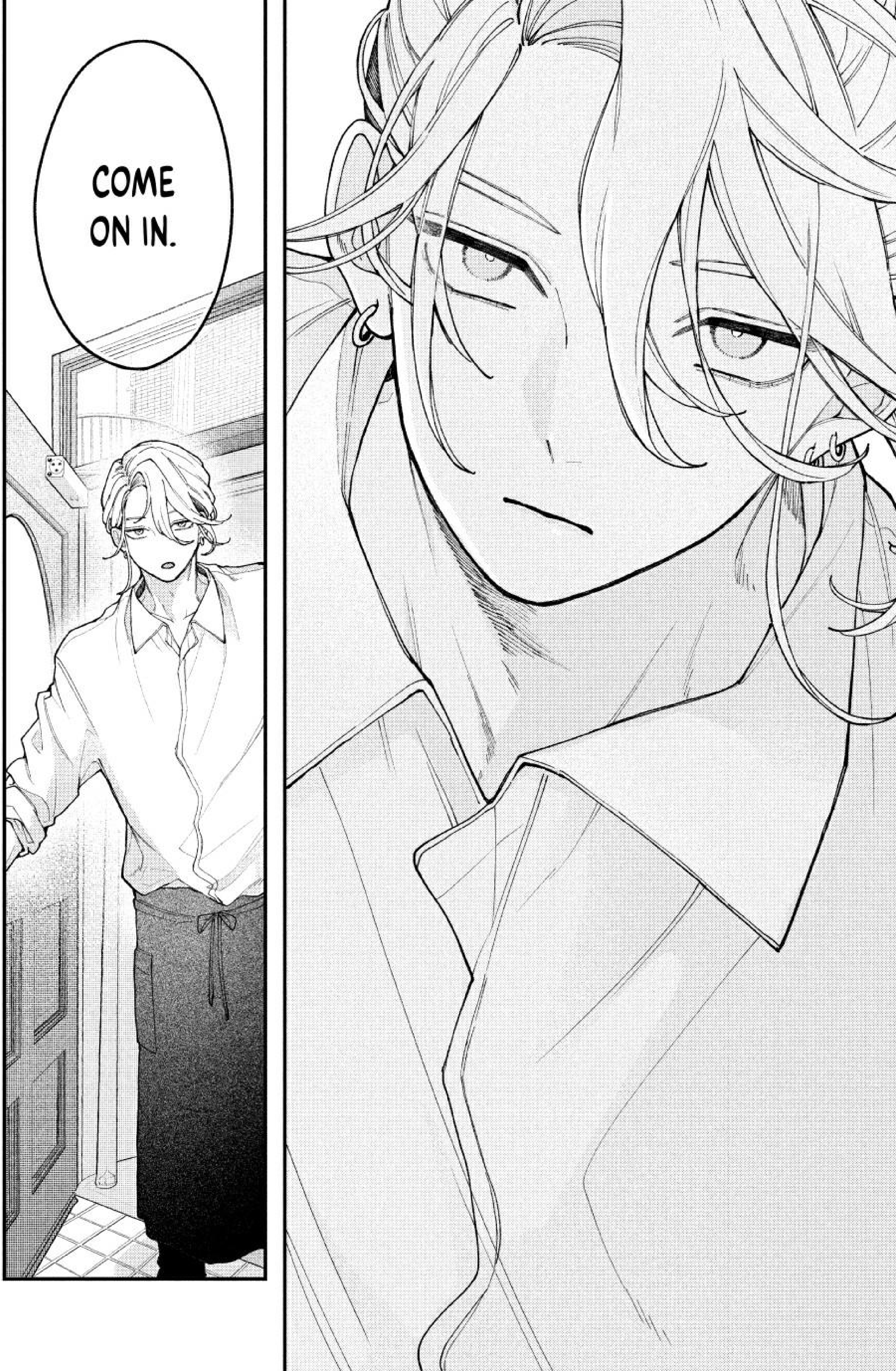
I got your message.
I'm free this Saturday

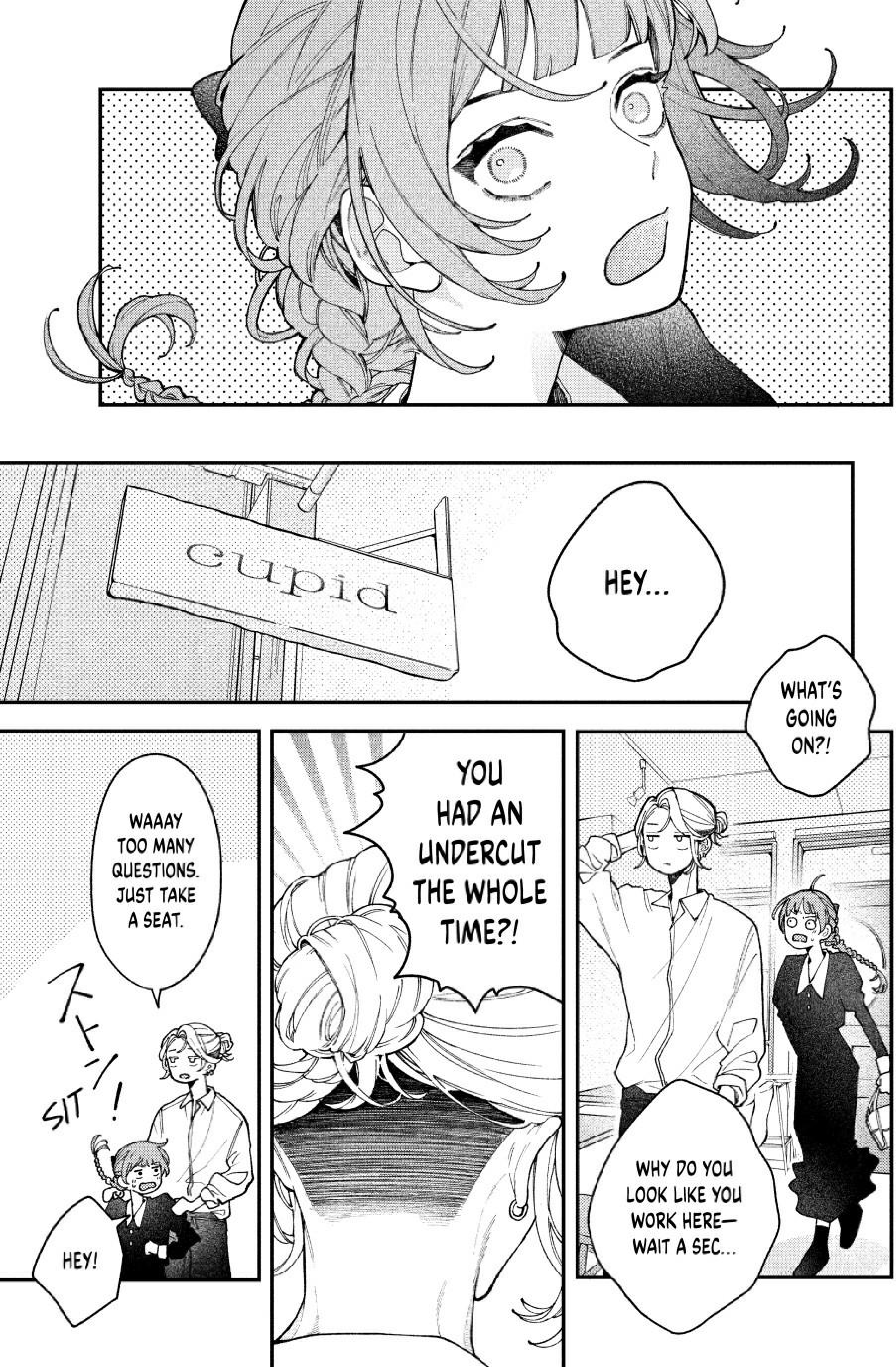

STOP YOURSELF, ME!
YOU JUST VOWED TO NOT LET HIM DRAG YOU BY THE COLLAR ANYMORE TODAY!
SO WHAT ARE YOU DOING ACCEPTING HIS INVITATION LIKE THIS?!
SERIOUSLY, WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?!
THIS IS IKKOKU-KUN. THERE'S NO WAY HE'D INVITE ME WITHOUT AN ULTERIOR MOTIVE.
MAYBE ANOTHER STUDENT'S COME TO ASK FOR HELP?
I HAVE TO THINK THIS THROUGH... I'M NOT ABOUT TO LET HIM HOLD THE REINS **AGAIN!**
OKAY, CALM DOWN... LET'S DELETE THIS DRAFT AND THINK ABOUT HIS INVITATION CAREFULLY...
TAP
Send

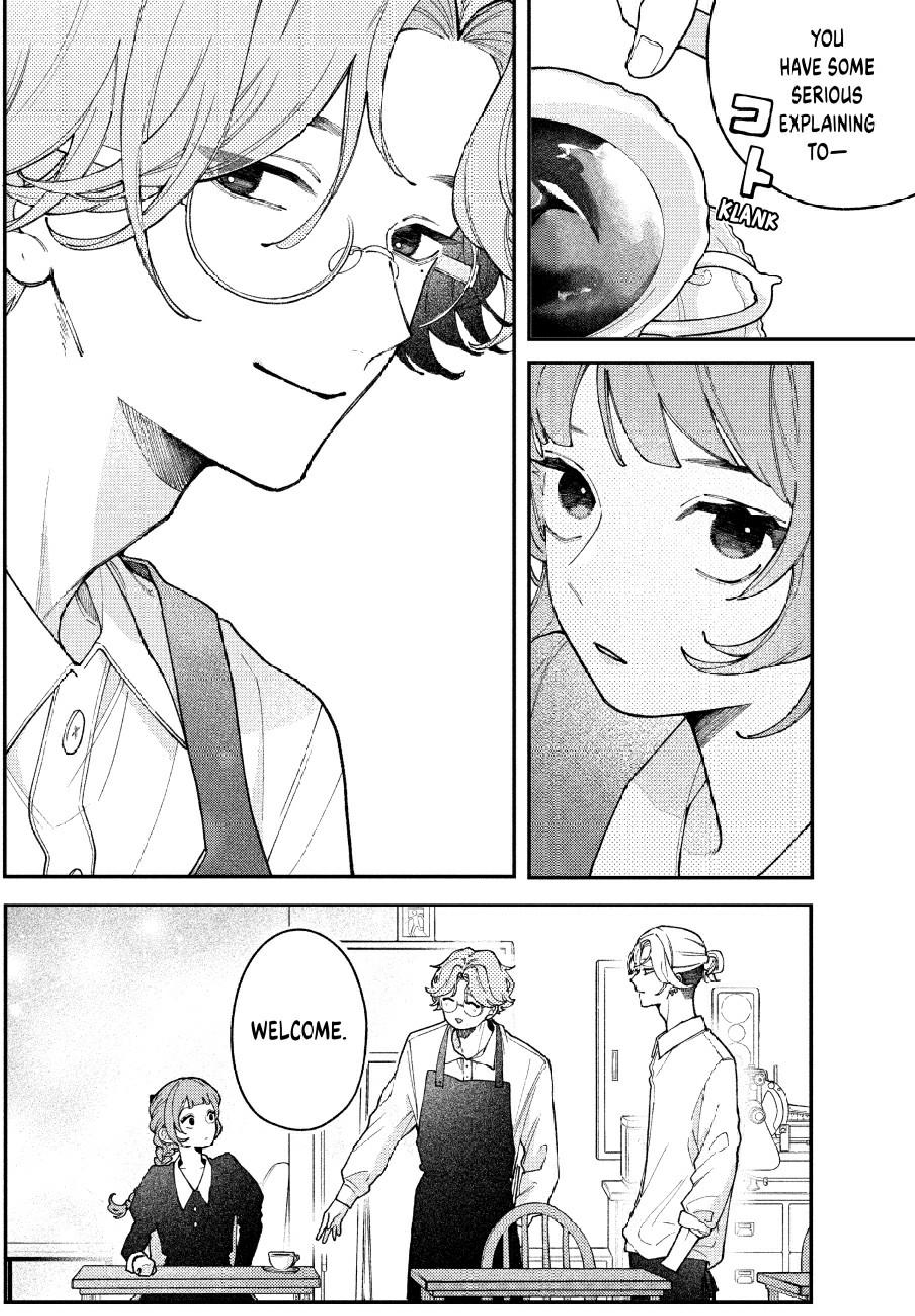

NOOO!
I MEANT TO PRESS CAN-CEEEL!

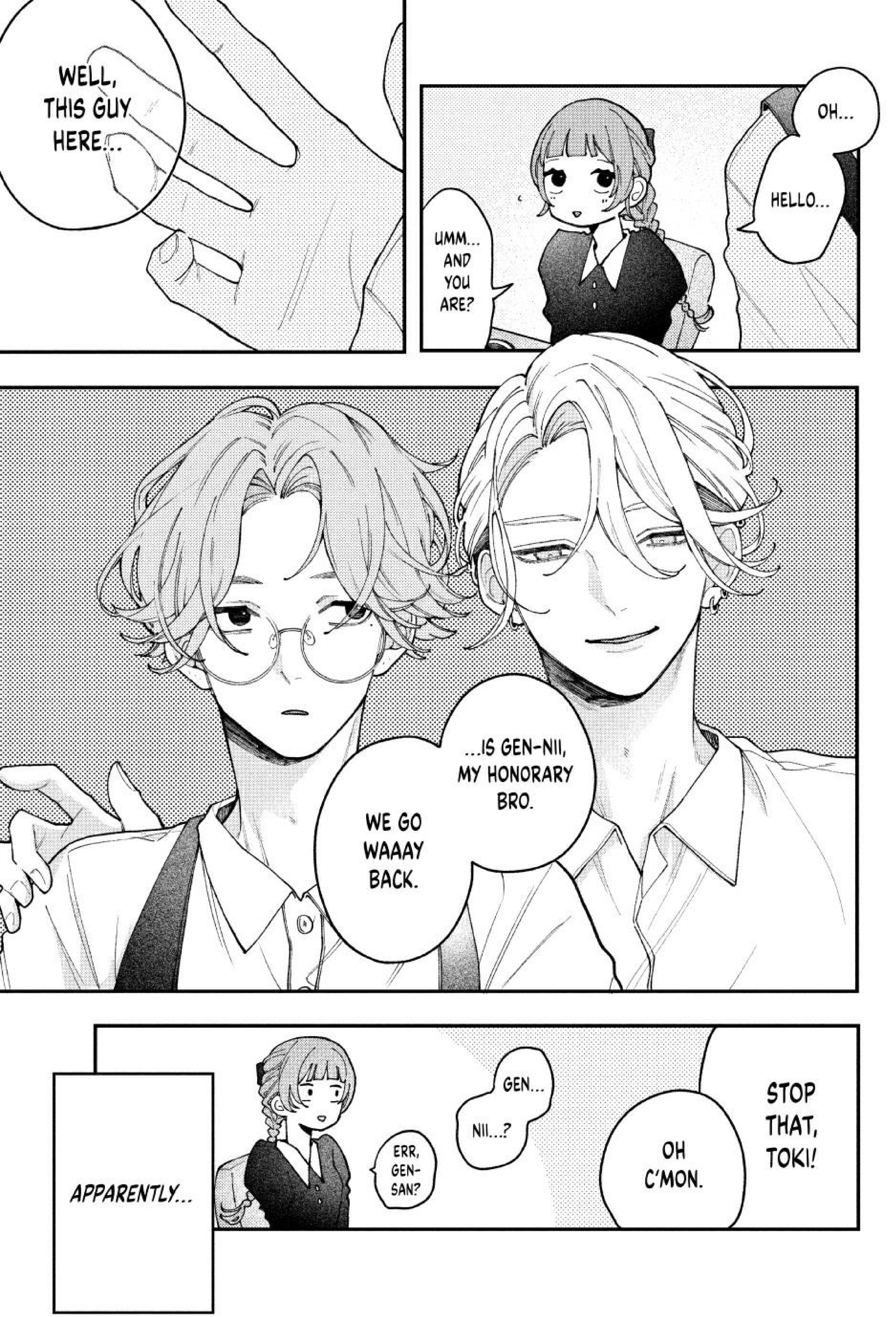

SO MUCH FOR THINKING THINGS THROUGH...
AND HERE I AM.

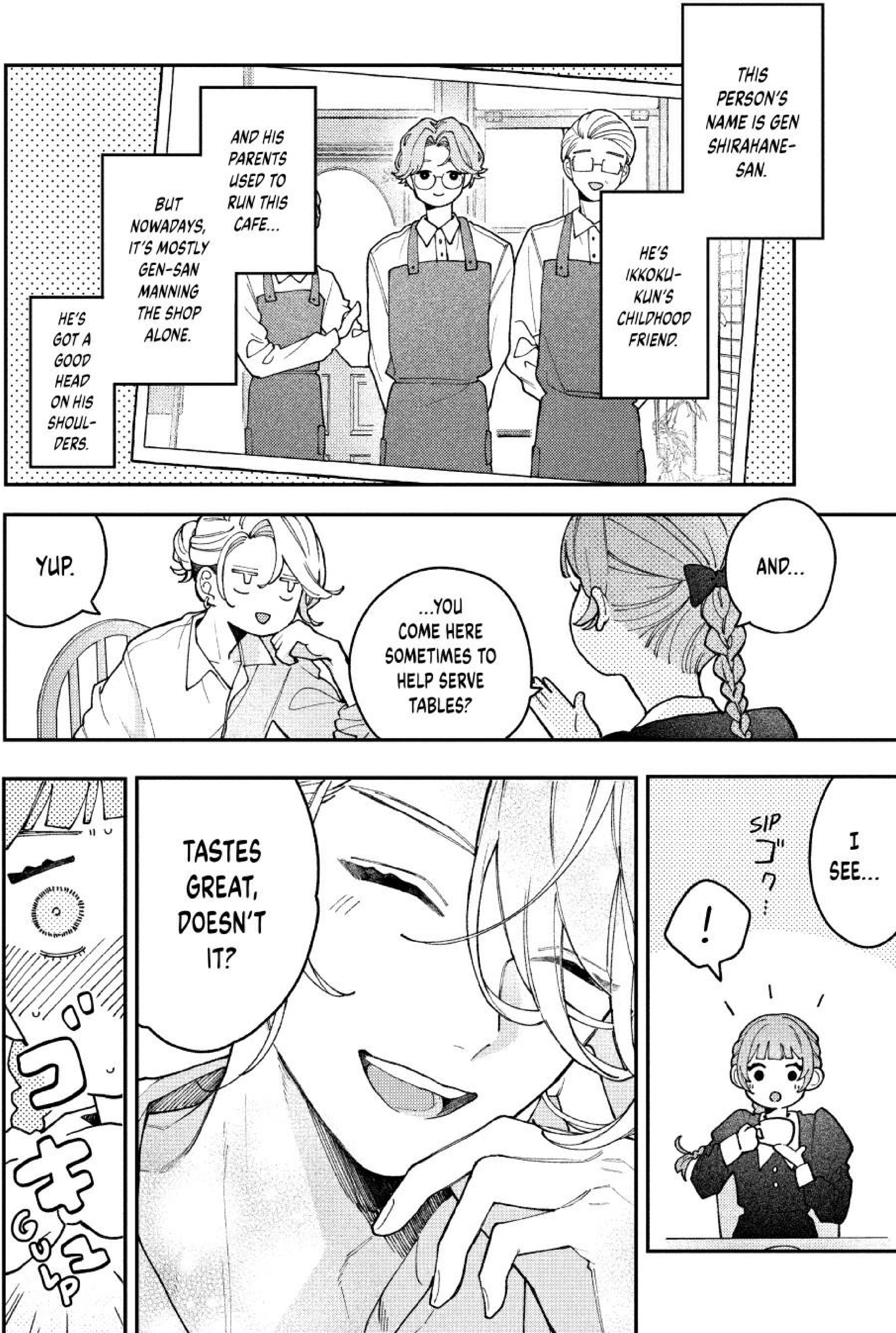

AFTER THAT, IKKOKU-KUN REPLIED WITH THE SPOT WHERE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO MEET. AT THAT POINT, MY FATE WAS ALREADY SEALED.
I attached a map to the cafe. I can vouch for it—the stuff they serve there are the best!
CLOSED
CLOSED
THE SHOP'S STILL CLOSED...
IS THIS REALLY THE RIGHT SPOT?
YO.

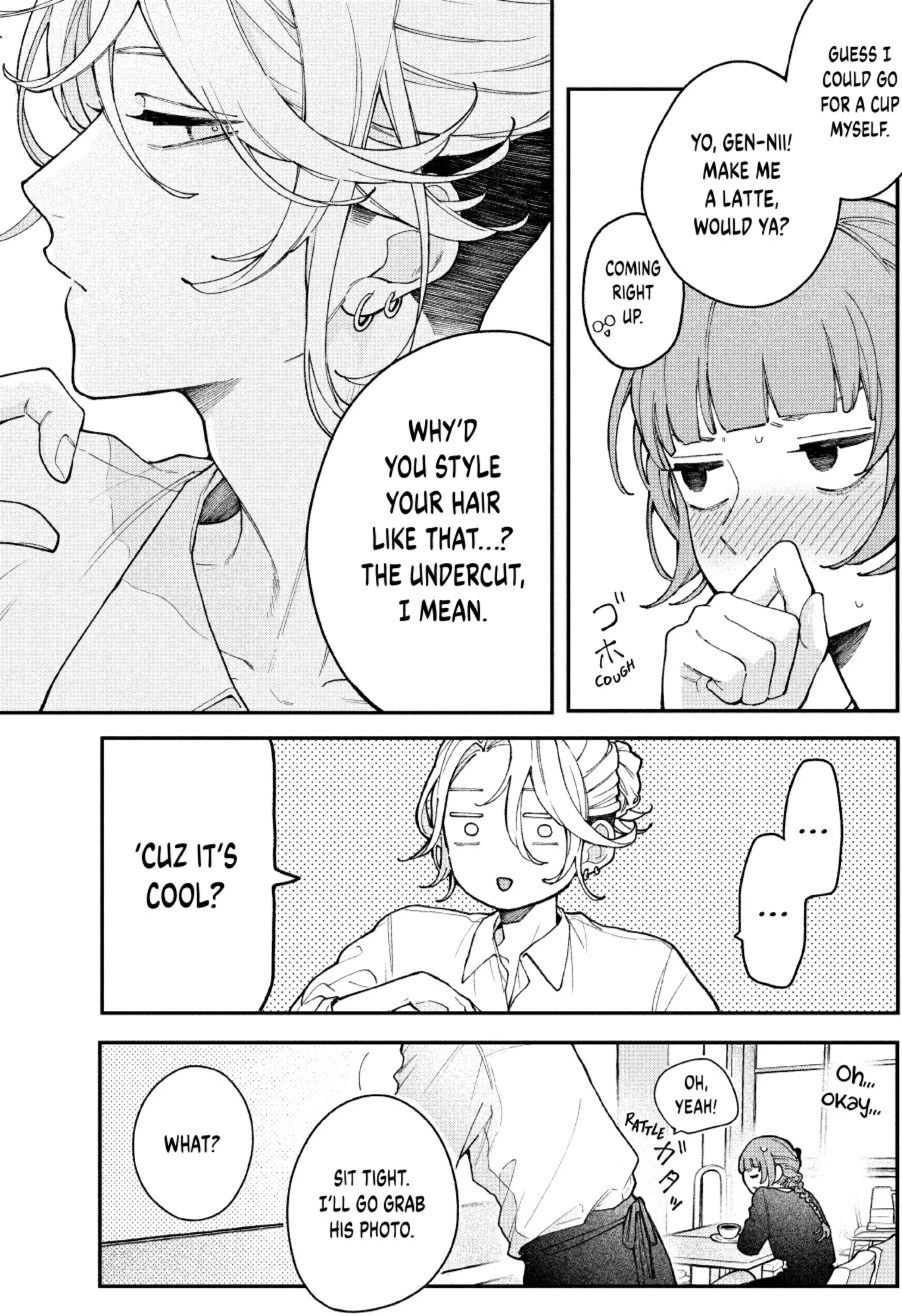

COME ON IN.

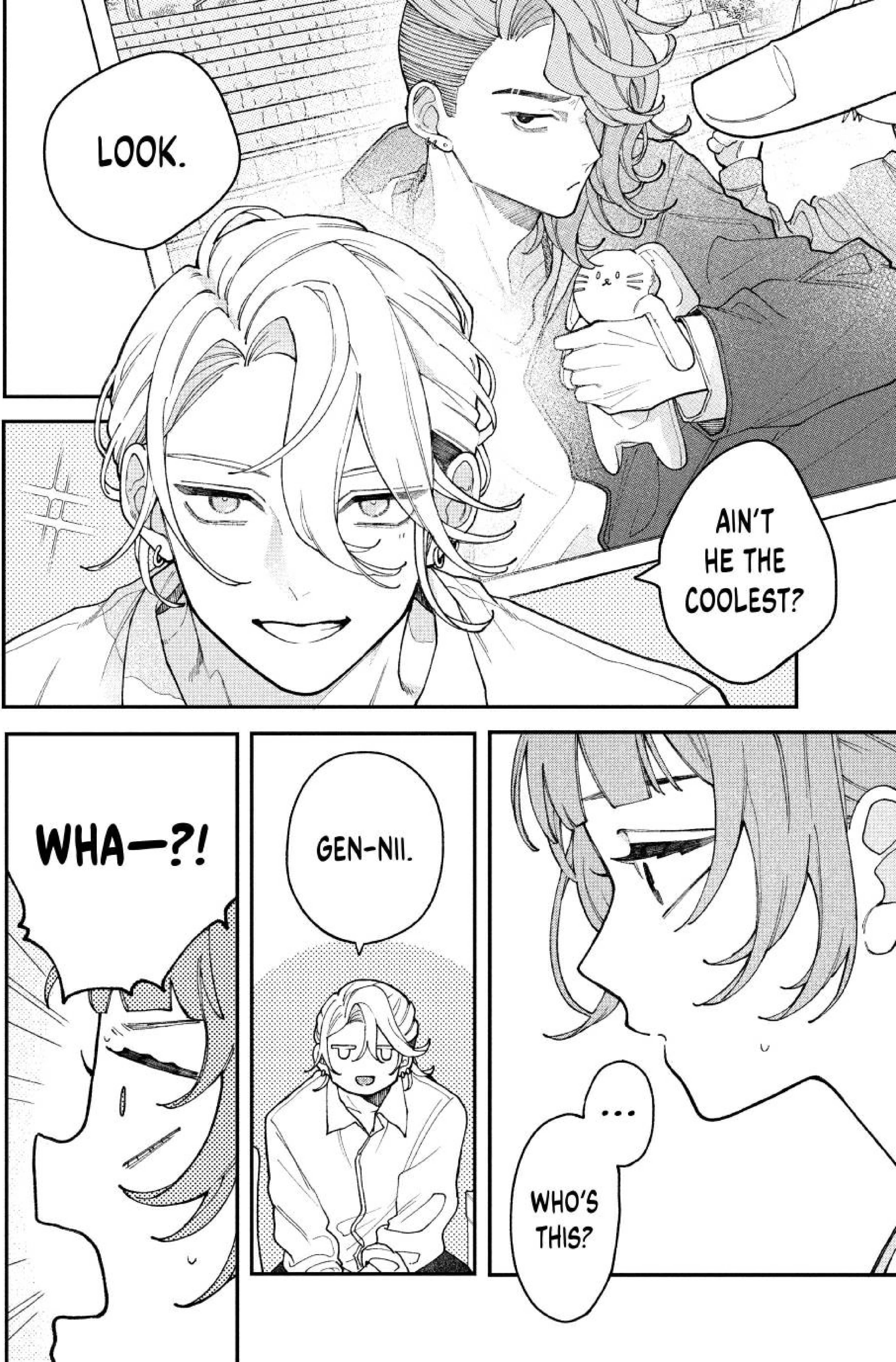

cupid
HEY...
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
WHY DO YOU LOOK LIKE YOU WORK HERE— WAIT A SEC...
YOU HAD AN UNDERCUT THE WHOLE TIME?!
WAAAY TOO MANY QUESTIONS. JUST TAKE A SEAT.
ストーン! SIT
HEY!

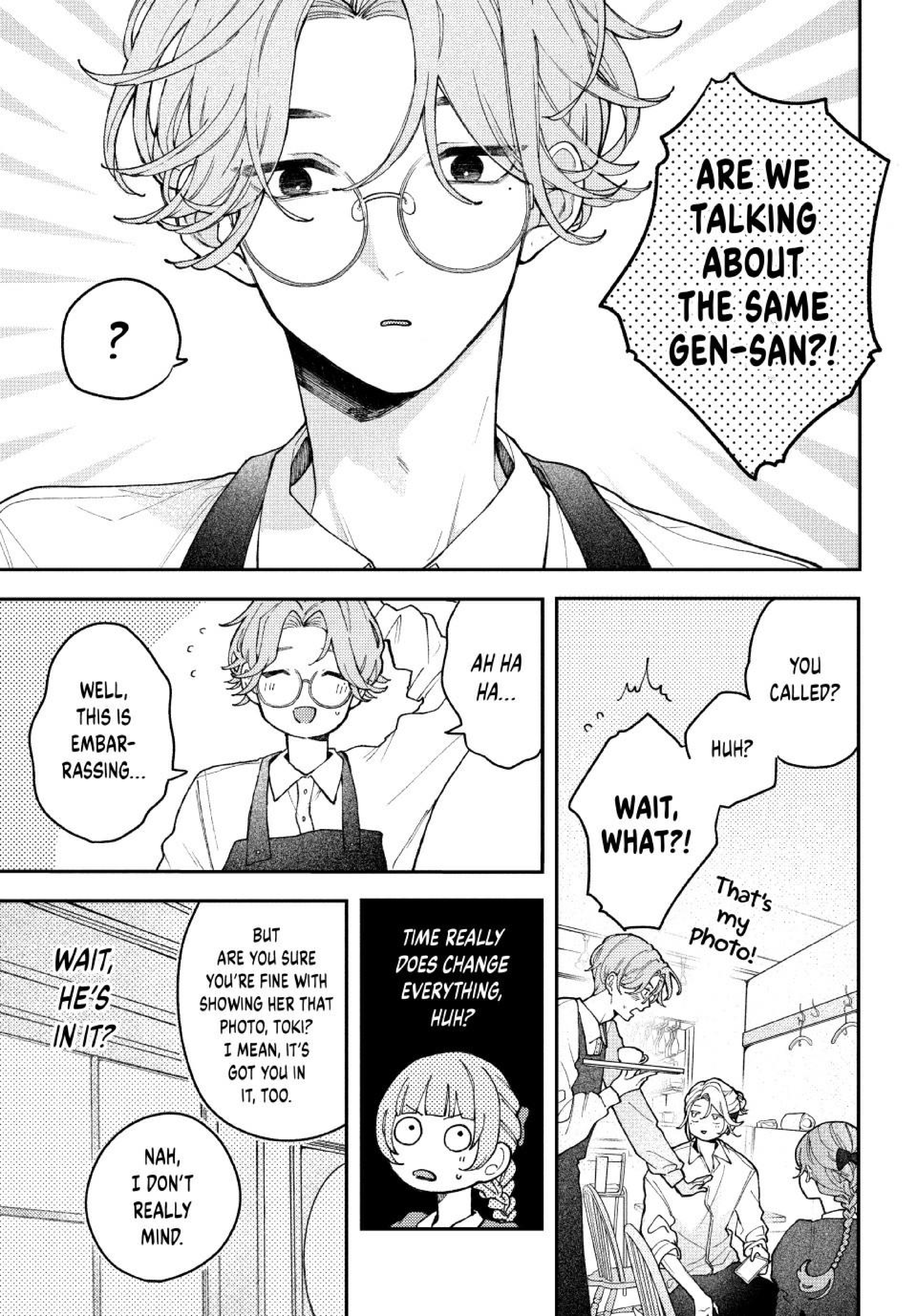

YOU HAVE SOME SERIOUS EXPLAINING TO—
コト
KLANK
WELCOME.

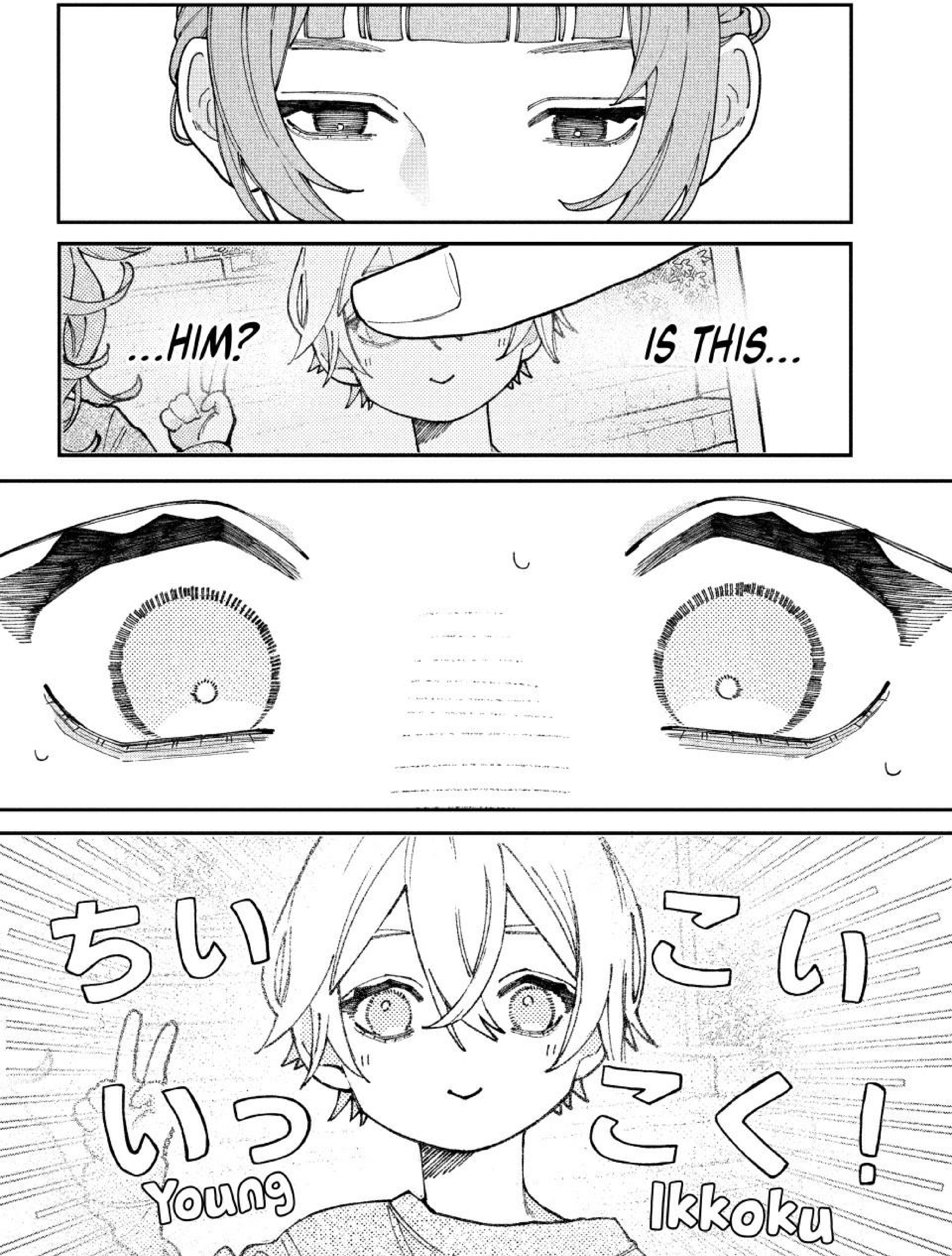

OH...
HELLO...
UMM... AND YOU ARE?
WELL, THIS GUY HERE...
...IS GEN-NII, MY HONORARY BRO.
WE GO WAAAY BACK.
STOP THAT, TOKI!
OH C'MON.
GEN... NII...?
ERR, GEN-SAN?
APPARENTLY...

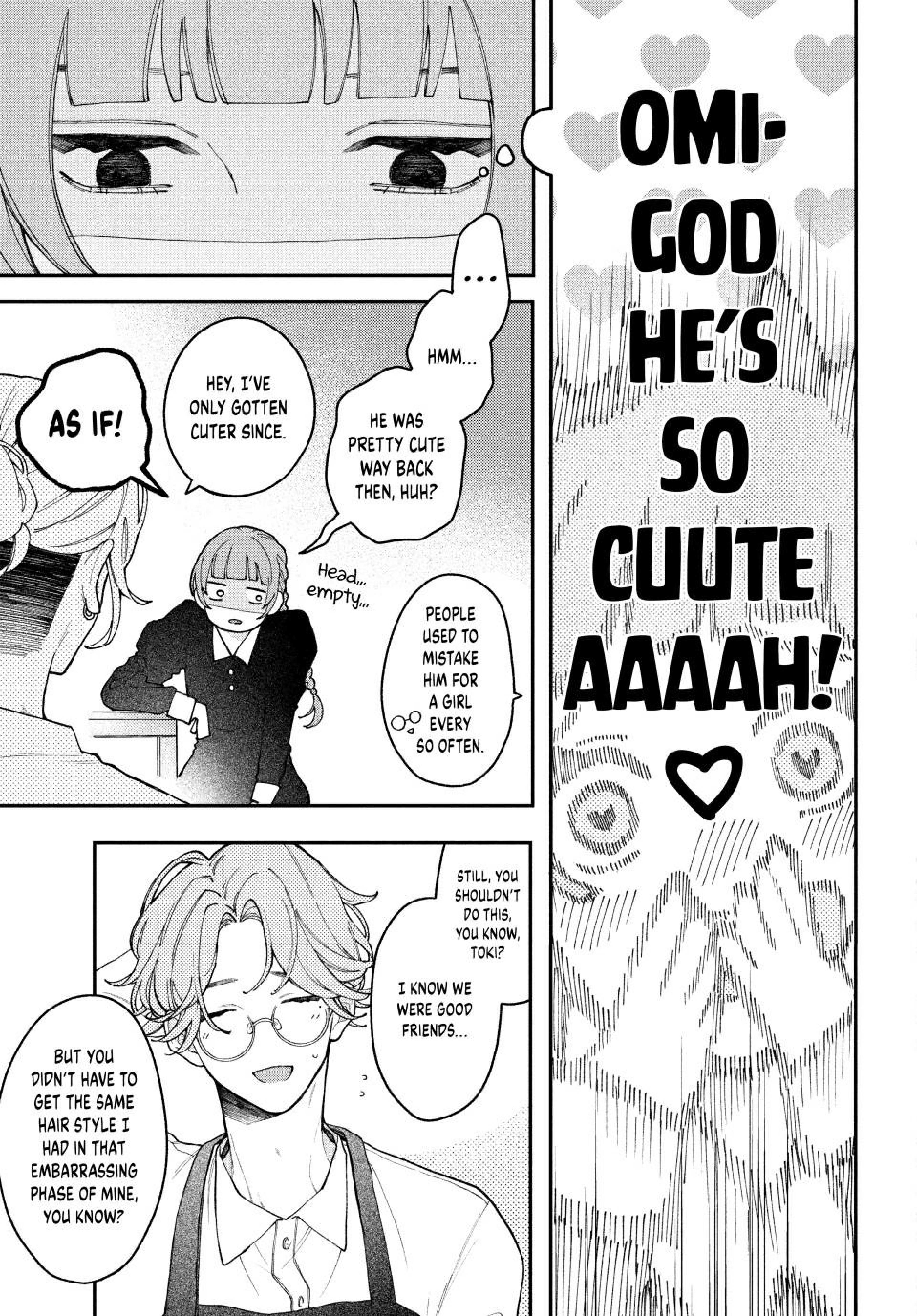

THIS PERSON'S NAME IS GEN SHIRAHANE-SAN.
HE'S IKKOKU-KUN'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND.
AND HIS PARENTS USED TO RUN THIS CAFE...
BUT NOWADAYS, IT'S MOSTLY GEN-SAN MANNING THE SHOP ALONE.
HE'S GOT A GOOD HEAD ON HIS SHOULDERS.
AND...
...YOU COME HERE SOMETIMES TO HELP SERVE TABLES?
YUP.
I SEE...
SIP ゴクッ...
!
TASTES GREAT, DOESN'T IT?
ゴキュ GULP

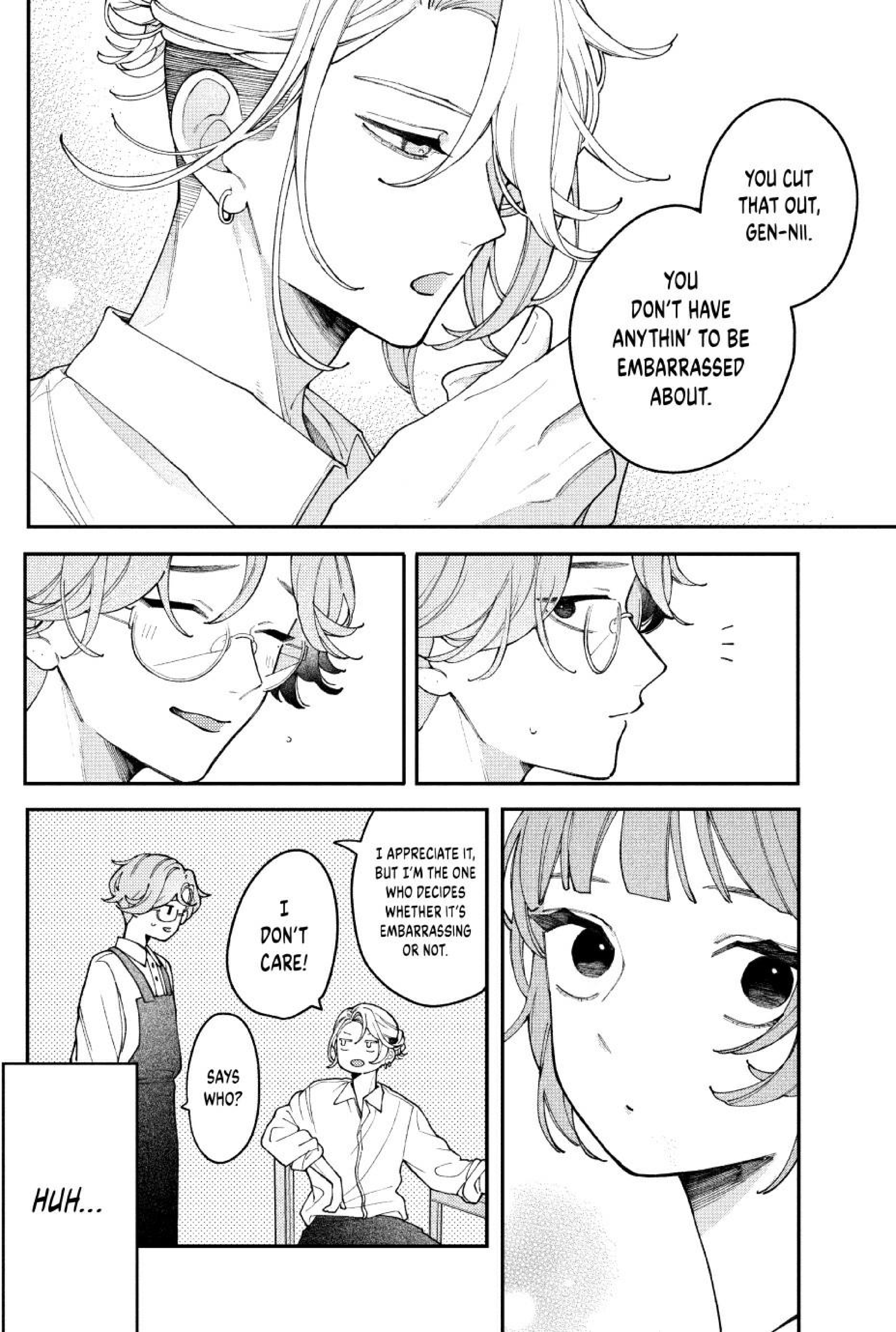

GUESS I COULD GO FOR A CUP MYSELF.
YO, GEN-NII! MAKE ME A LATTE, WOULD YA?
COMING RIGHT UP.
ゴホ COUGH
WHY'D YOU STYLE YOUR HAIR LIKE THAT...? THE UNDERCUT, I MEAN.
...
...
'CUZ IT'S COOL?
Oh... okay...
OH, YEAH!
RATTLE ガタッ
SIT TIGHT. I'LL GO GRAB HIS PHOTO.
WHAT?

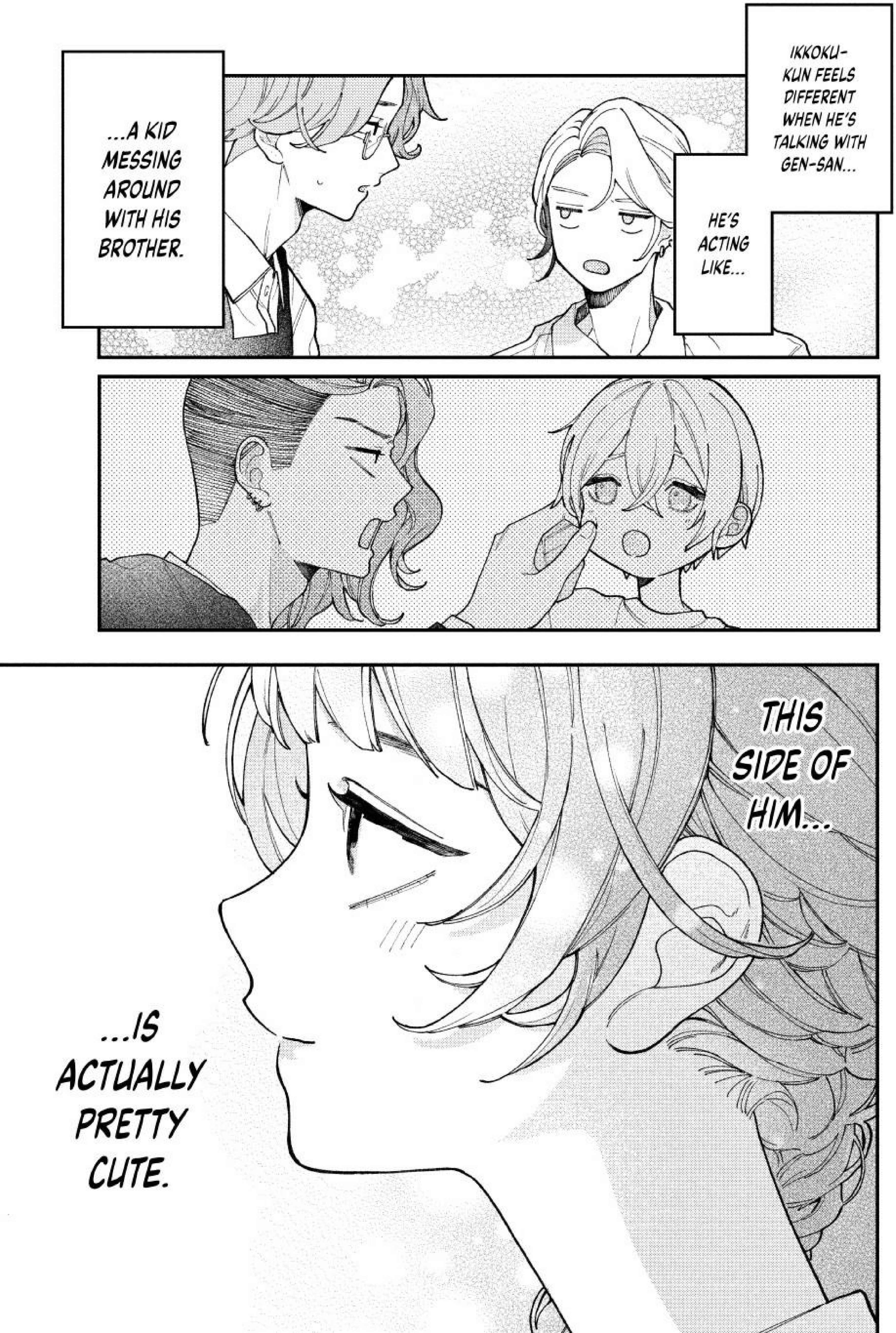

LOOK.
AIN'T HE THE COOLEST?
...
WHO'S THIS?
GEN-NII.
WHA—?!

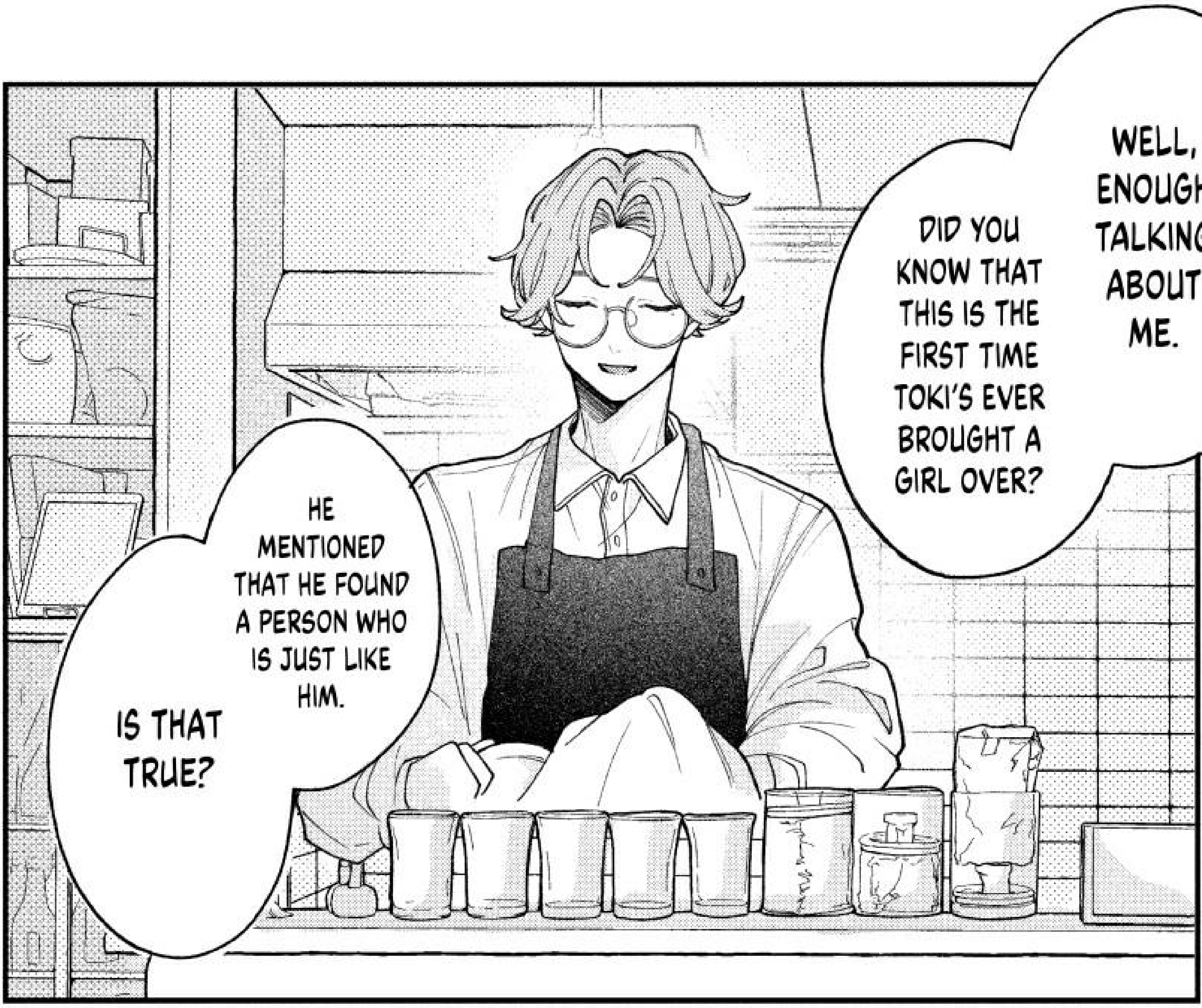

ARE WE TALKING ABOUT THE SAME GEN-SAN?!
?
YOU CALLED?
HUH?
WAIT, WHAT?!
That's my Photo!
AH HA HA...
WELL, THIS IS EMBARRASSING...
TIME REALLY DOES CHANGE EVERYTHING, HUH?
BUT ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE FINE WITH SHOWING HER THAT PHOTO, TOKI? I MEAN, IT'S GOT YOU IN IT, TOO.
NAH, I DON'T REALLY MIND.
WAIT, HE'S IN IT?

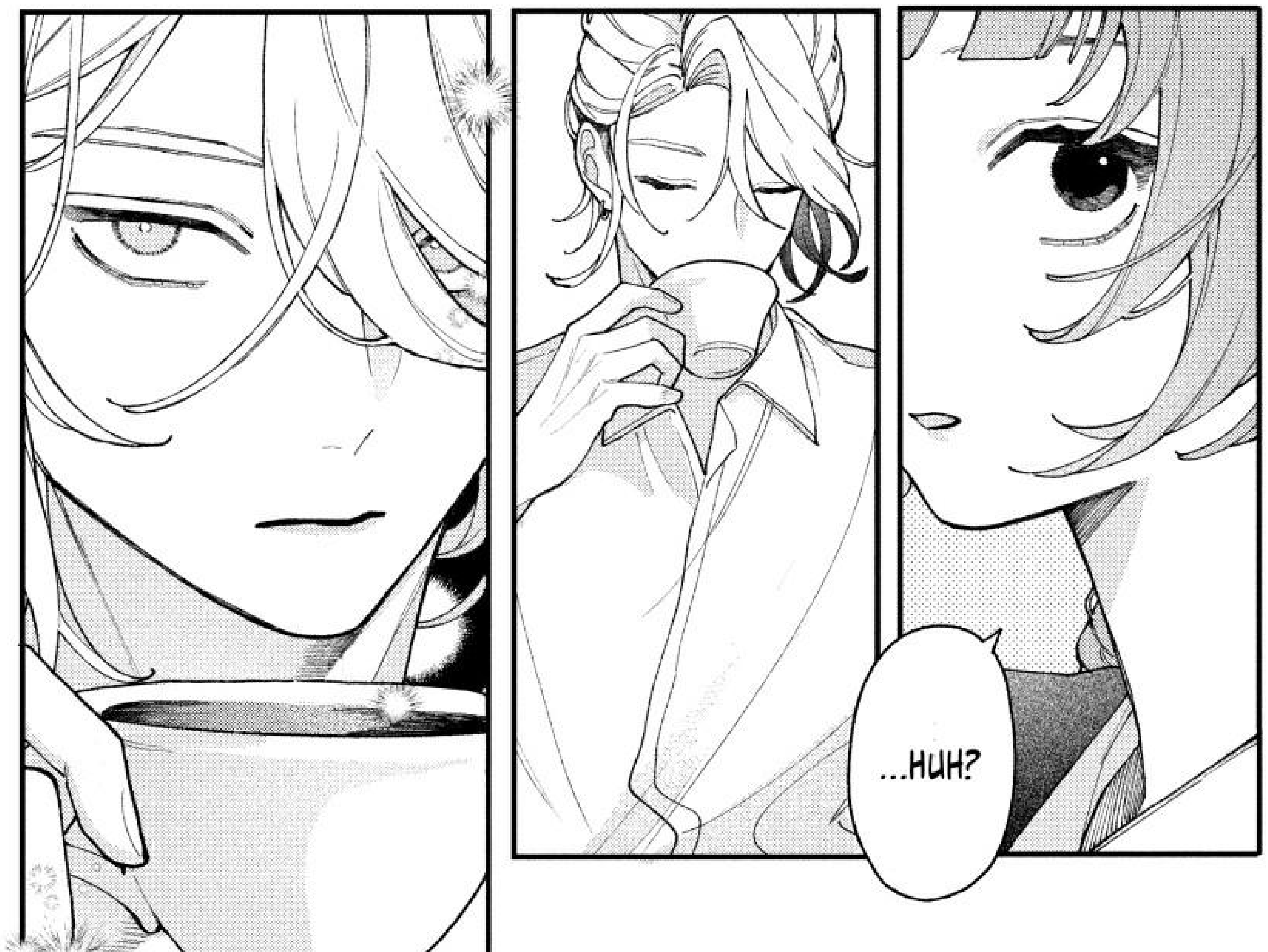

IS THIS...
...HIM?
ちいこい
いっこく!
Young
Ikkoku

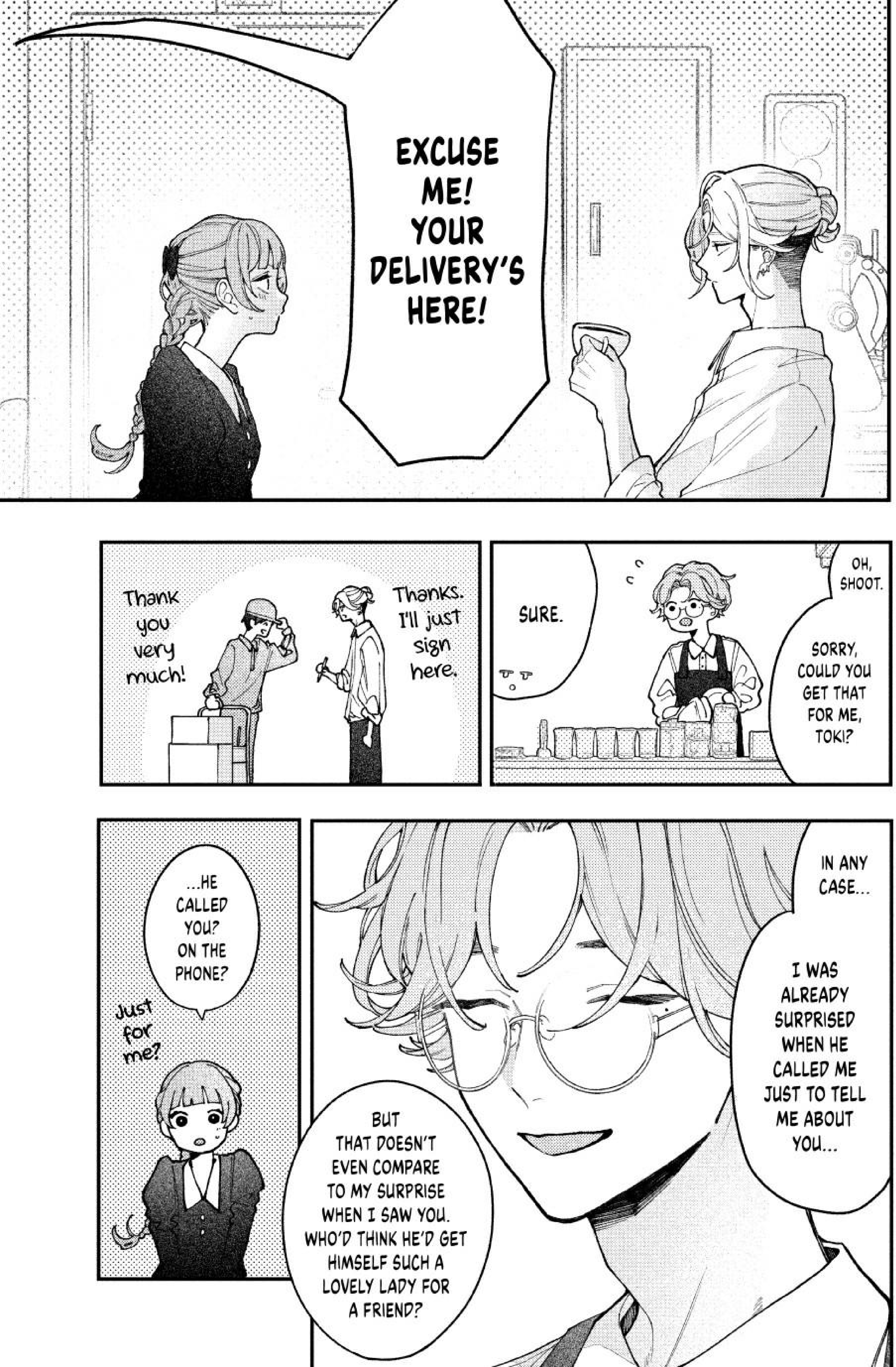

OMI-GOD HE'S SO CUUTE AAAAH! ♥
...
HMM... HE WAS PRETTY CUTE WAY BACK THEN, HUH?
Head... empty...
PEOPLE USED TO MISTAKE HIM FOR A GIRL EVERY SO OFTEN.
HEY, I'VE ONLY GOTTEN CUTER SINCE.
AS IF!
STILL, YOU SHOULDN'T DO THIS, YOU KNOW, TOKI?
I KNOW WE WERE GOOD FRIENDS...
BUT YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GET THE SAME HAIR STYLE I HAD IN THAT EMBARRASSING PHASE OF MINE, YOU KNOW?

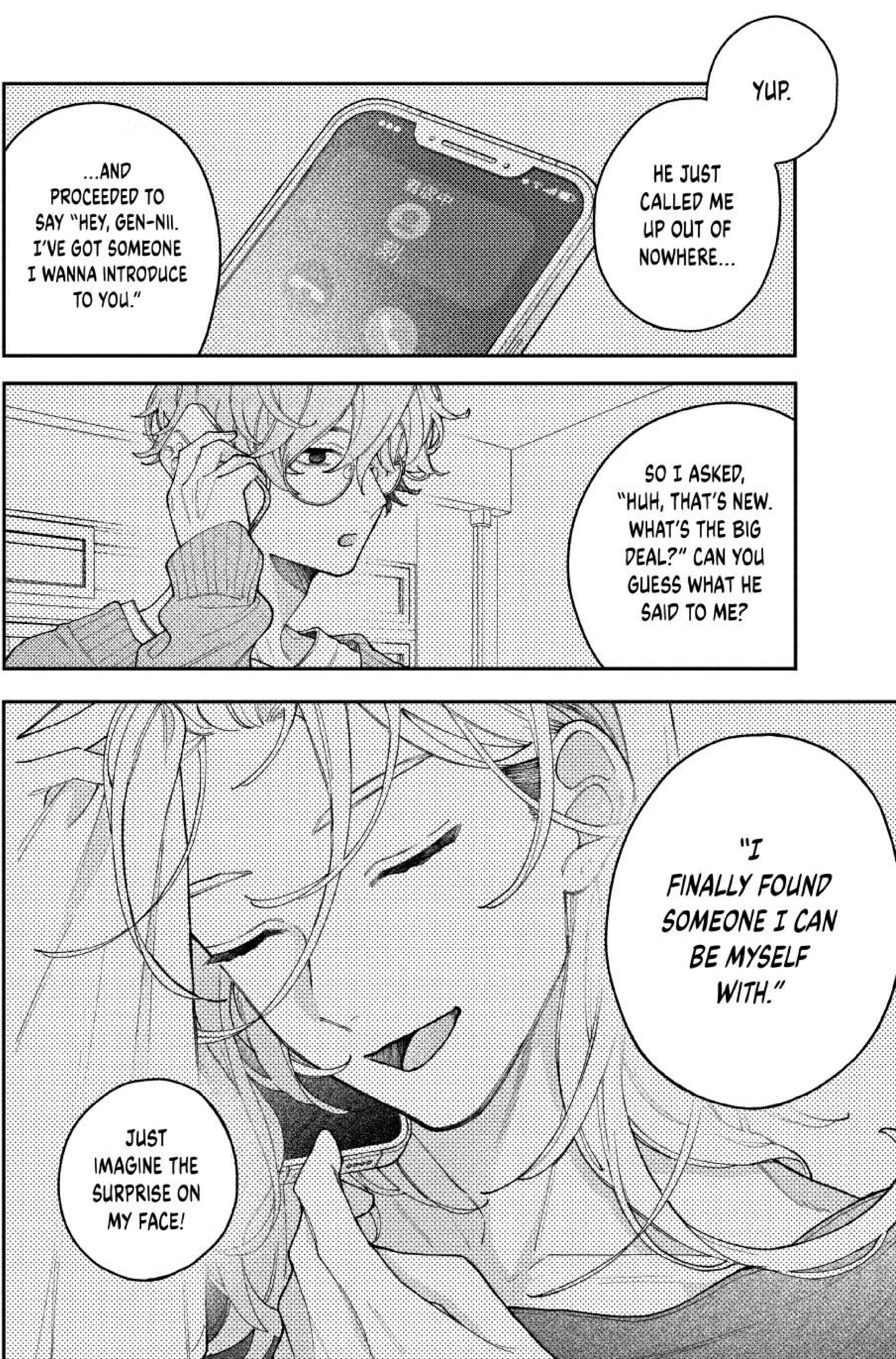

YOU CUT THAT OUT, GEN-NII.
YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHIN' TO BE EMBARRASSED ABOUT.
I APPRECIATE IT, BUT I'M THE ONE WHO DECIDES WHETHER IT'S EMBARRASSING OR NOT.
I DON'T CARE!
SAYS WHO?
HUH...

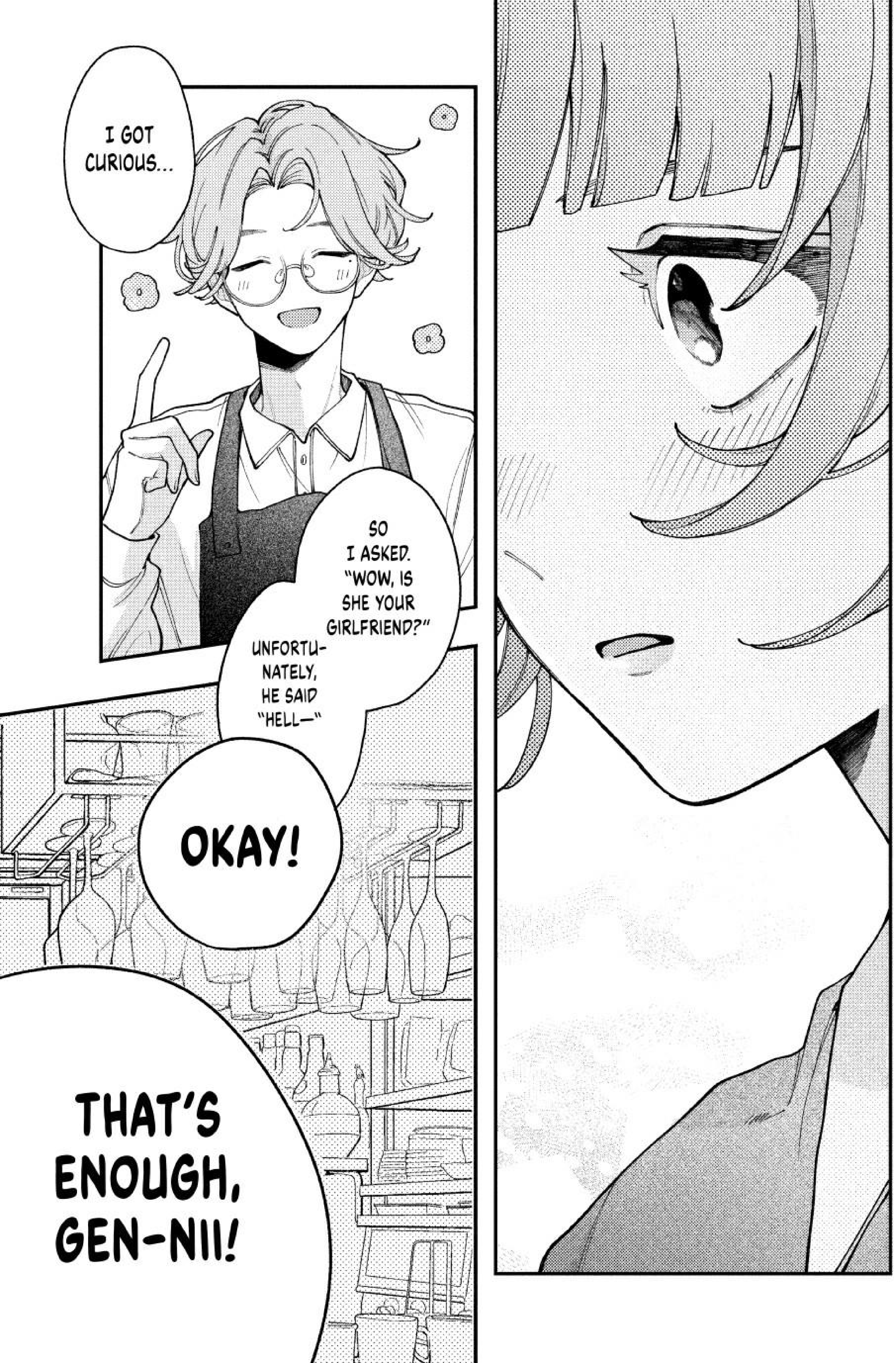

IKKOKU-KUN FEELS DIFFERENT WHEN HE'S TALKING WITH GEN-SAN...
HE'S ACTING LIKE...
...A KID MESSING AROUND WITH HIS BROTHER.
THIS SIDE OF HIM...
...IS ACTUALLY PRETTY CUTE.

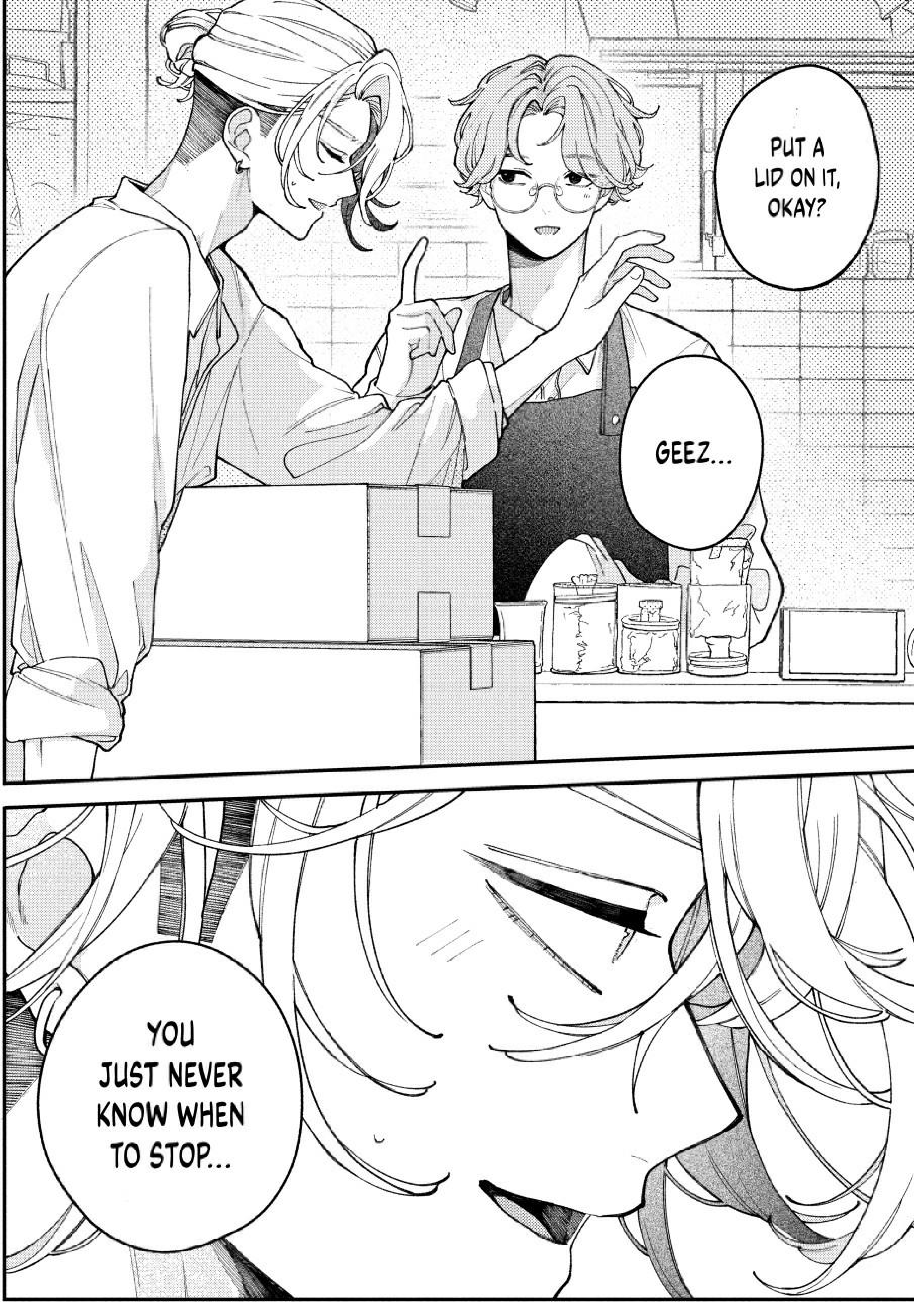

WELL, ENOUGH TALKING ABOUT ME.
DID YOU KNOW THAT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME TOKI'S EVER BROUGHT A GIRL OVER?
HE MENTIONED THAT HE FOUND A PERSON WHO IS JUST LIKE HIM.
IS THAT TRUE?

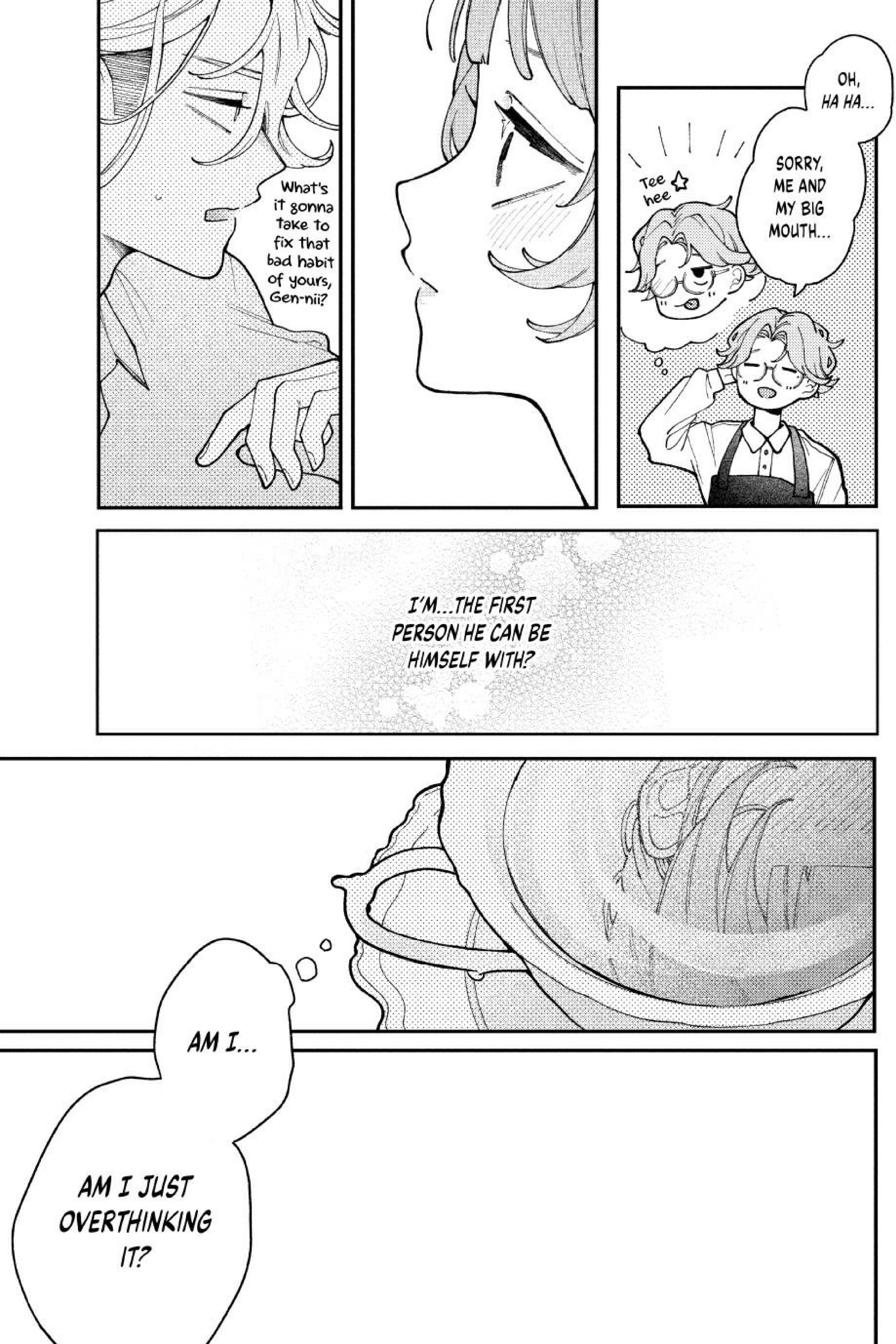

...HUH?

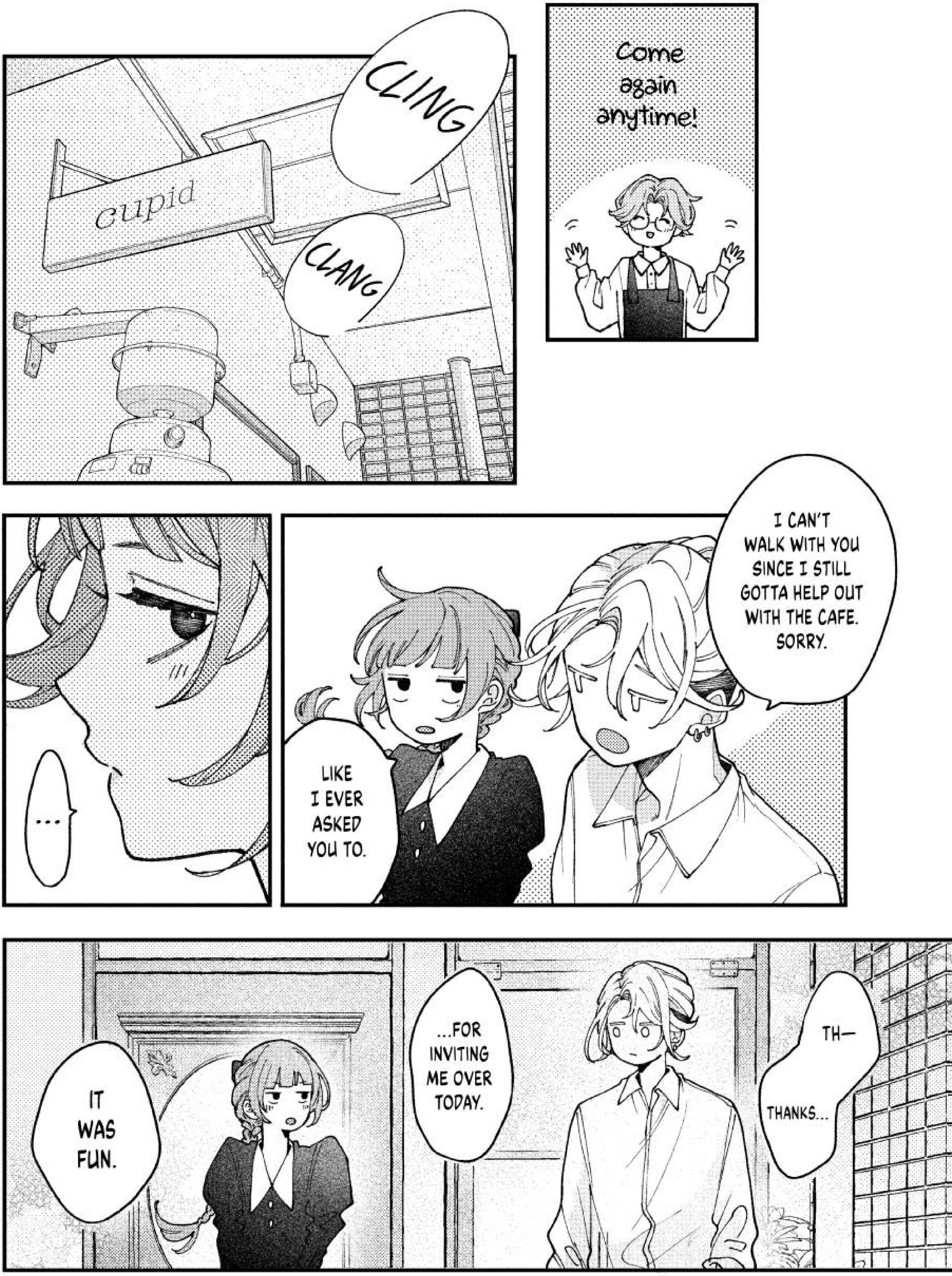

EXCUSE ME! YOUR DELIVERY'S HERE!
OH, SHOOT.
SORRY, COULD YOU GET THAT FOR ME, TOKI?
SURE.
Thanks. I'll just sign here.
Thank you very much!
IN ANY CASE...
I WAS ALREADY SURPRISED WHEN HE CALLED ME JUST TO TELL ME ABOUT YOU...
BUT THAT DOESN'T EVEN COMPARE TO MY SURPRISE WHEN I SAW YOU. WHO'D THINK HE'D GET HIMSELF SUCH A LOVELY LADY FOR A FRIEND?
...HE CALLED YOU? ON THE PHONE?
Just for me?

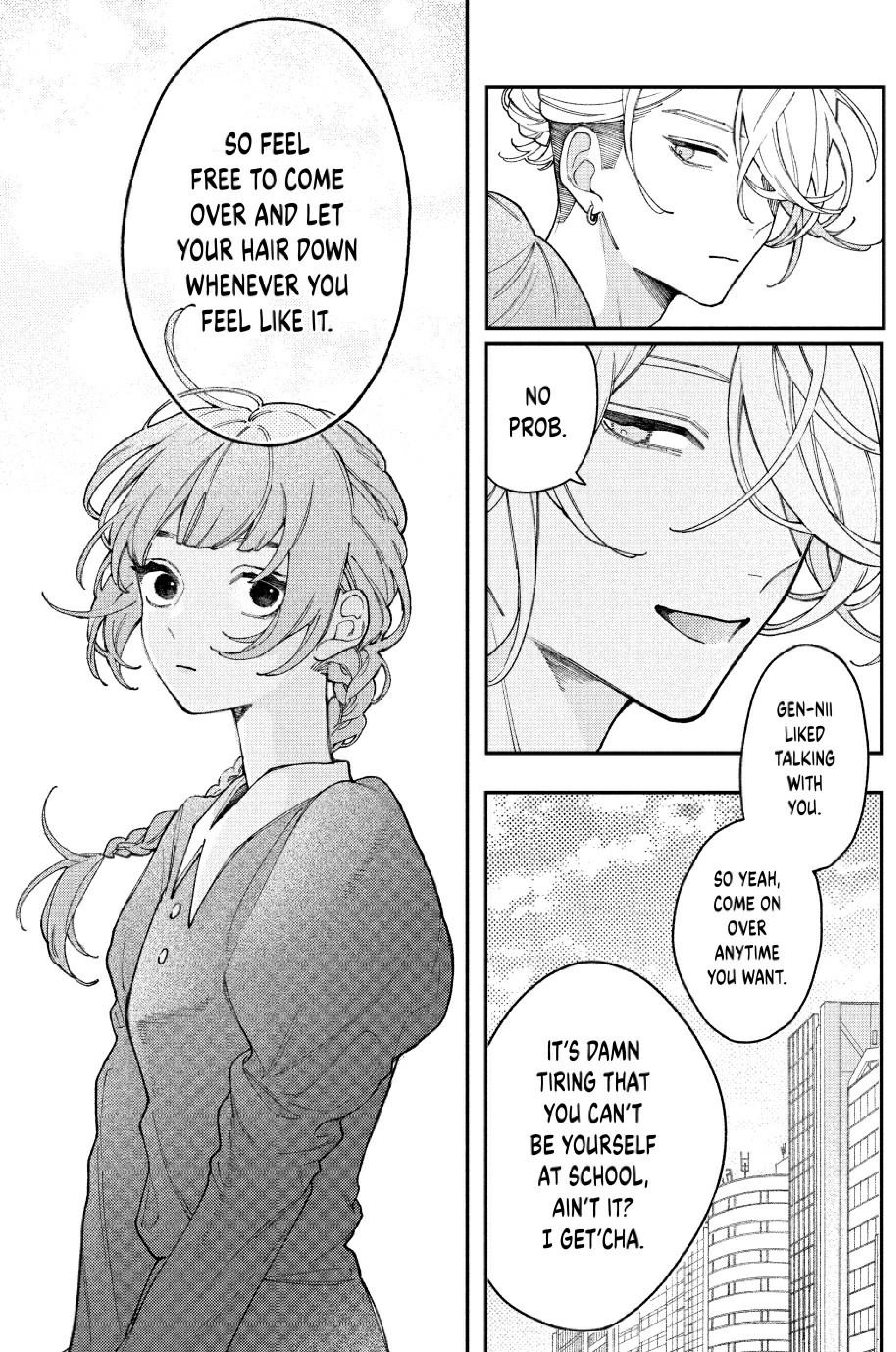

YUP.
HE JUST CALLED ME UP OUT OF NOWHERE...
...AND PROCEEDED TO SAY "HEY, GEN-NII. I'VE GOT SOMEONE I WANNA INTRODUCE TO YOU."
SO I ASKED, "HUH, THAT'S NEW. WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?" CAN YOU GUESS WHAT HE SAID TO ME?
"I FINALLY FOUND SOMEONE I CAN BE MYSELF WITH."
JUST IMAGINE THE SURPRISE ON MY FACE!

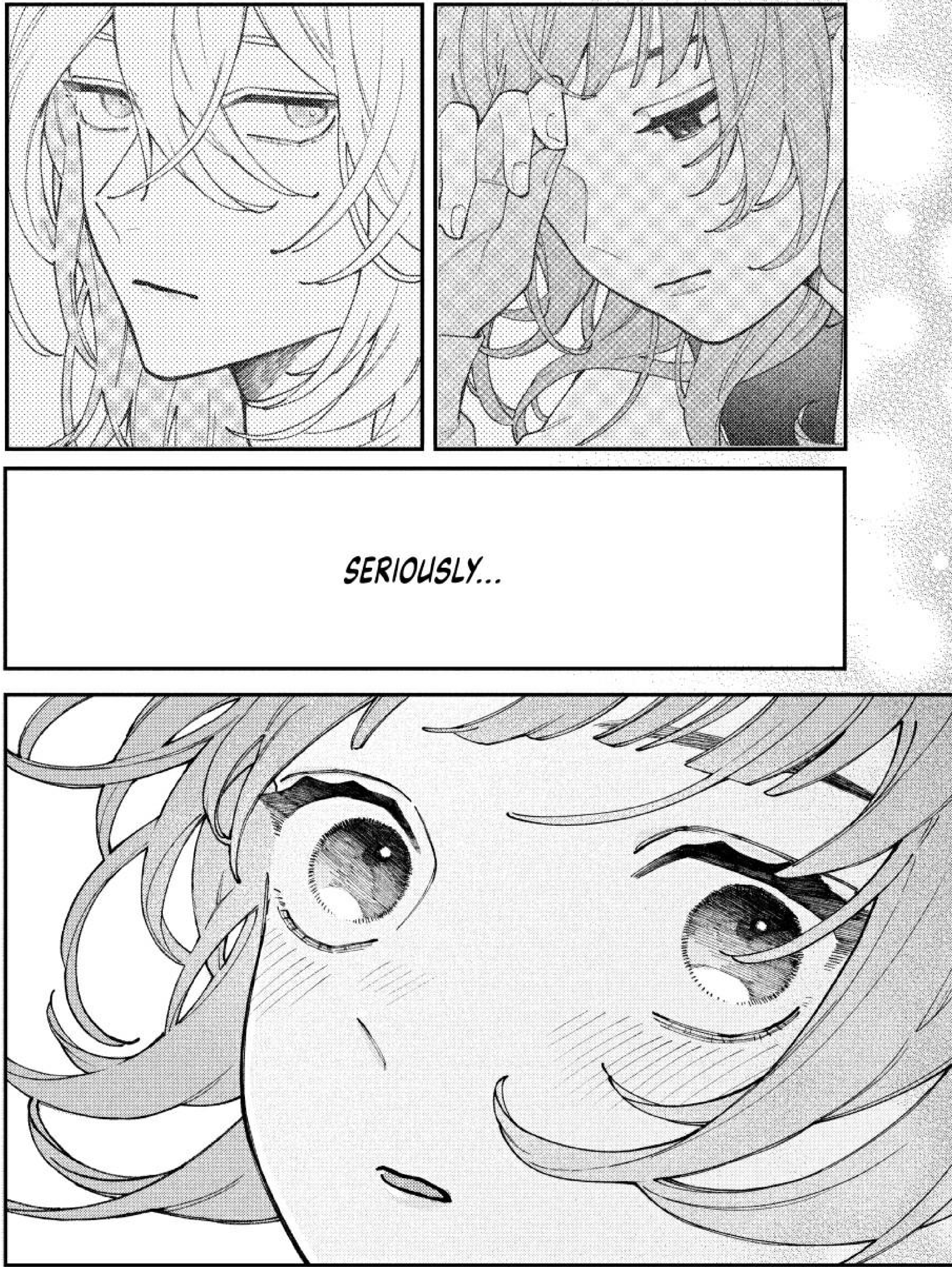

I GOT CURIOUS...
SO I ASKED. "WOW, IS SHE YOUR GIRLFRIEND?"
UNFORTUNATELY, HE SAID "HELL—"
OKAY!
THAT'S ENOUGH, GEN-NII!

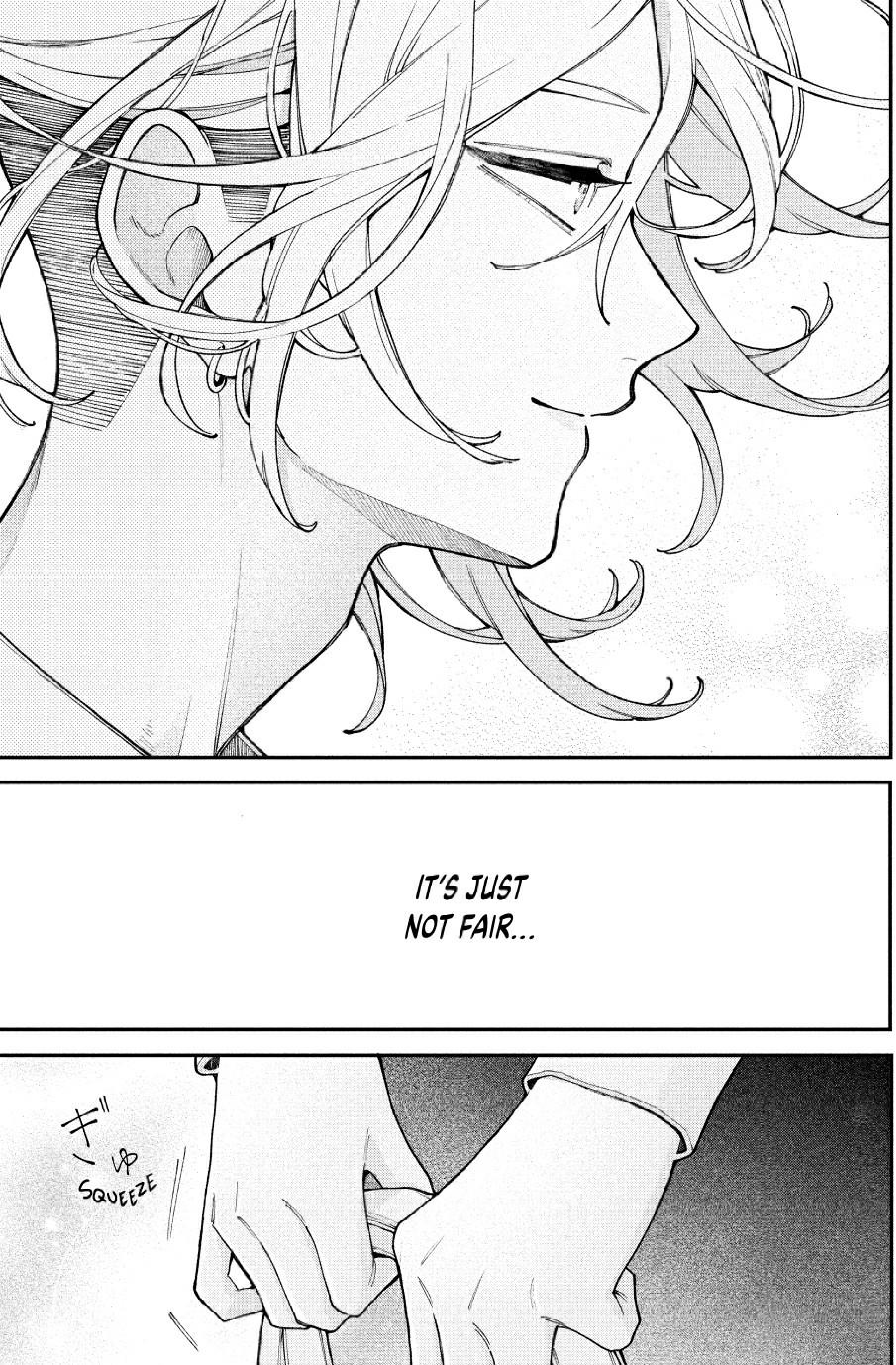

PUT A LID ON IT, OKAY?
GEEZ...
YOU JUST NEVER KNOW WHEN TO STOP...

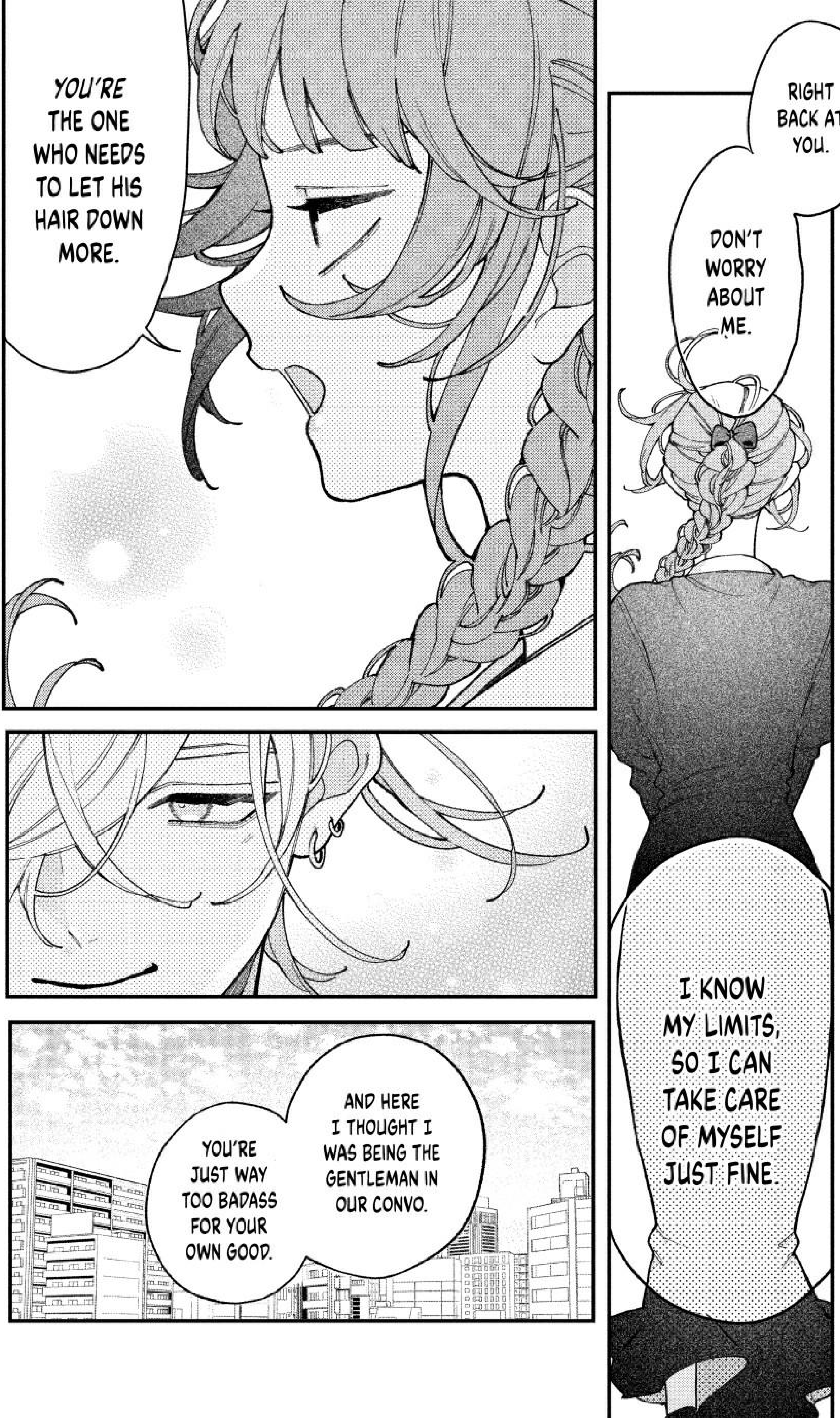

What's it gonna take to fix that bad habit of yours, Gen-nii?
Oh, ha ha...
Sorry, me and my big mouth...
Tee hee
I'M...THE FIRST PERSON HE CAN BE HIMSELF WITH?
AM I...
AM I JUST OVERTHINKING IT?

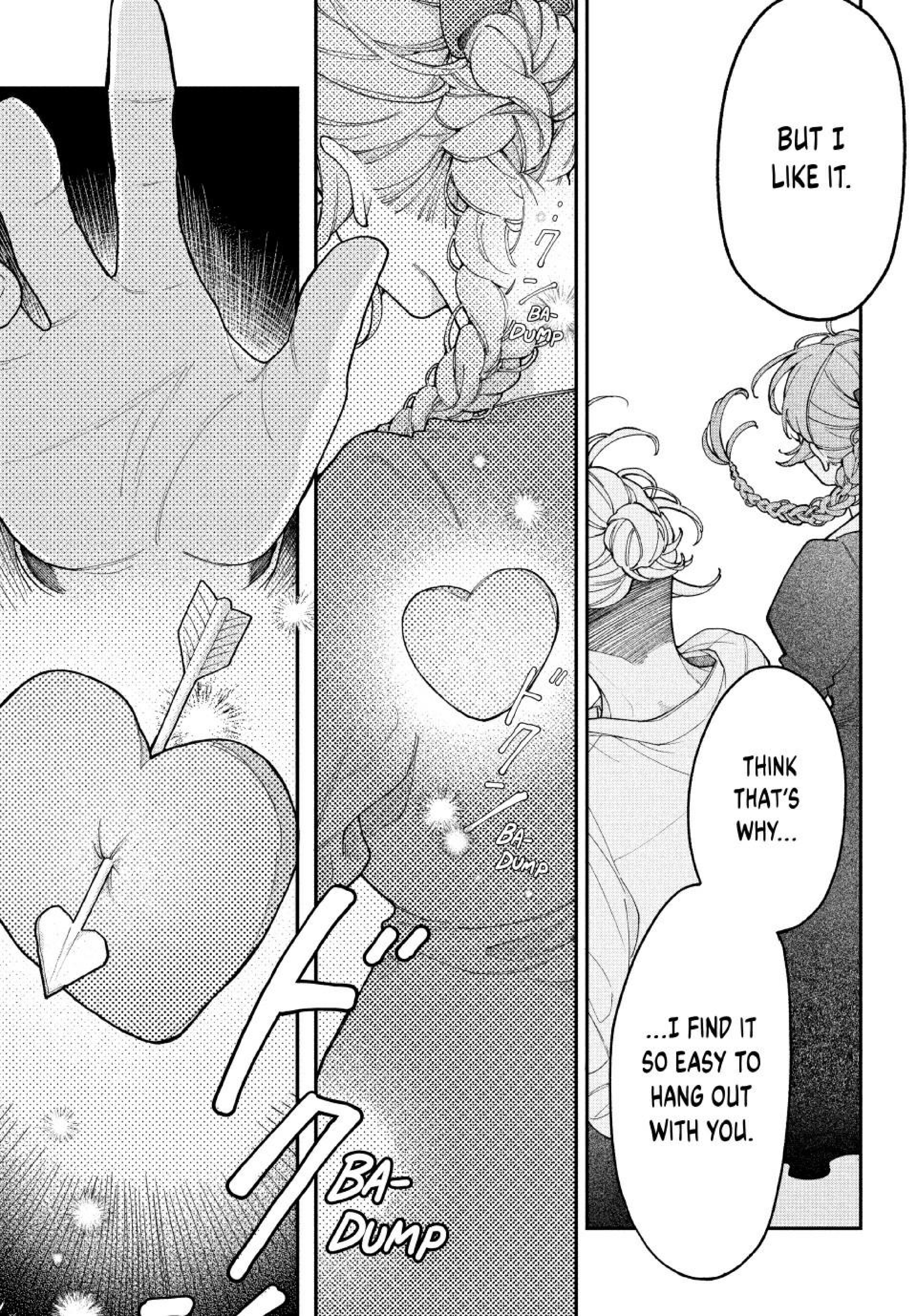

Come again anytime!
CLING
CLANG
cupid
I CAN'T WALK WITH YOU SINCE I STILL GOTTA HELP OUT WITH THE CAFE. SORRY.
LIKE I EVER ASKED YOU TO.
...
TH— THANKS...
...FOR INVITING ME OVER TODAY.
IT WAS FUN.

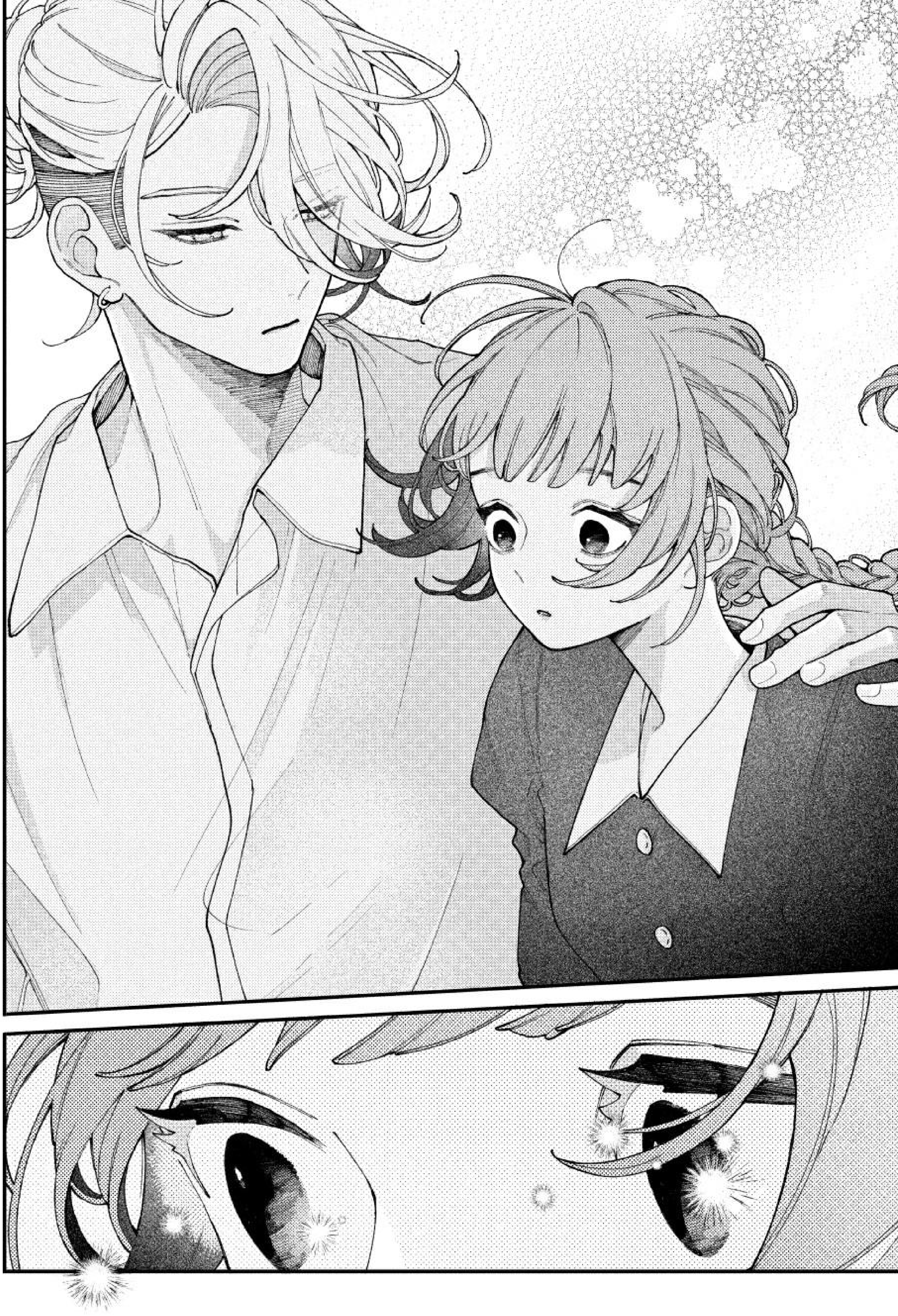

NO PROB.
GEN-NII LIKED TALKING WITH YOU.
SO YEAH, COME ON OVER ANYTIME YOU WANT.
IT'S DAMN TIRING THAT YOU CAN'T BE YOURSELF AT SCHOOL, AIN'T IT? I GET'CHA.
SO FEEL FREE TO COME OVER AND LET YOUR HAIR DOWN WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT.

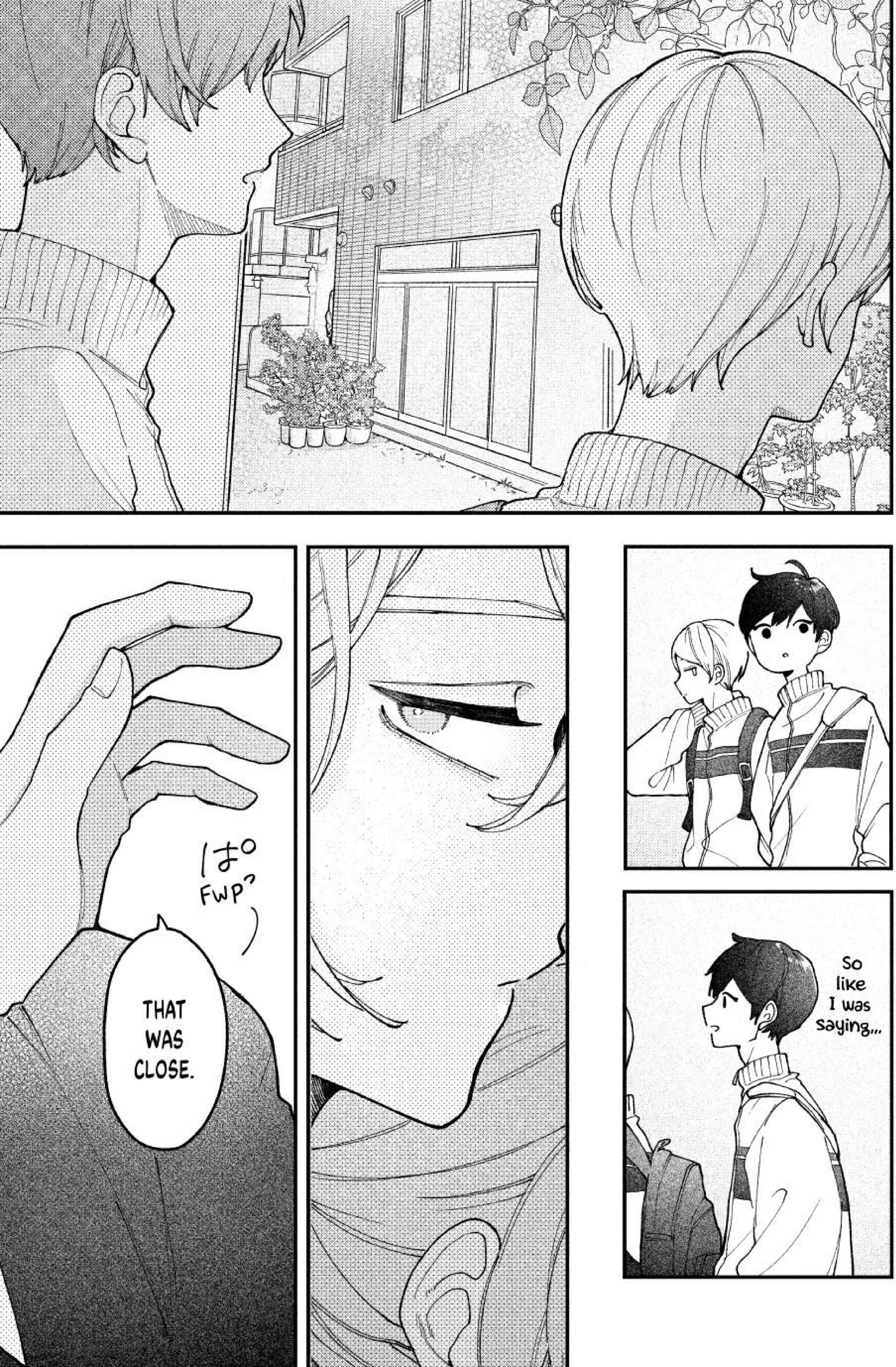

SERIOUSLY...

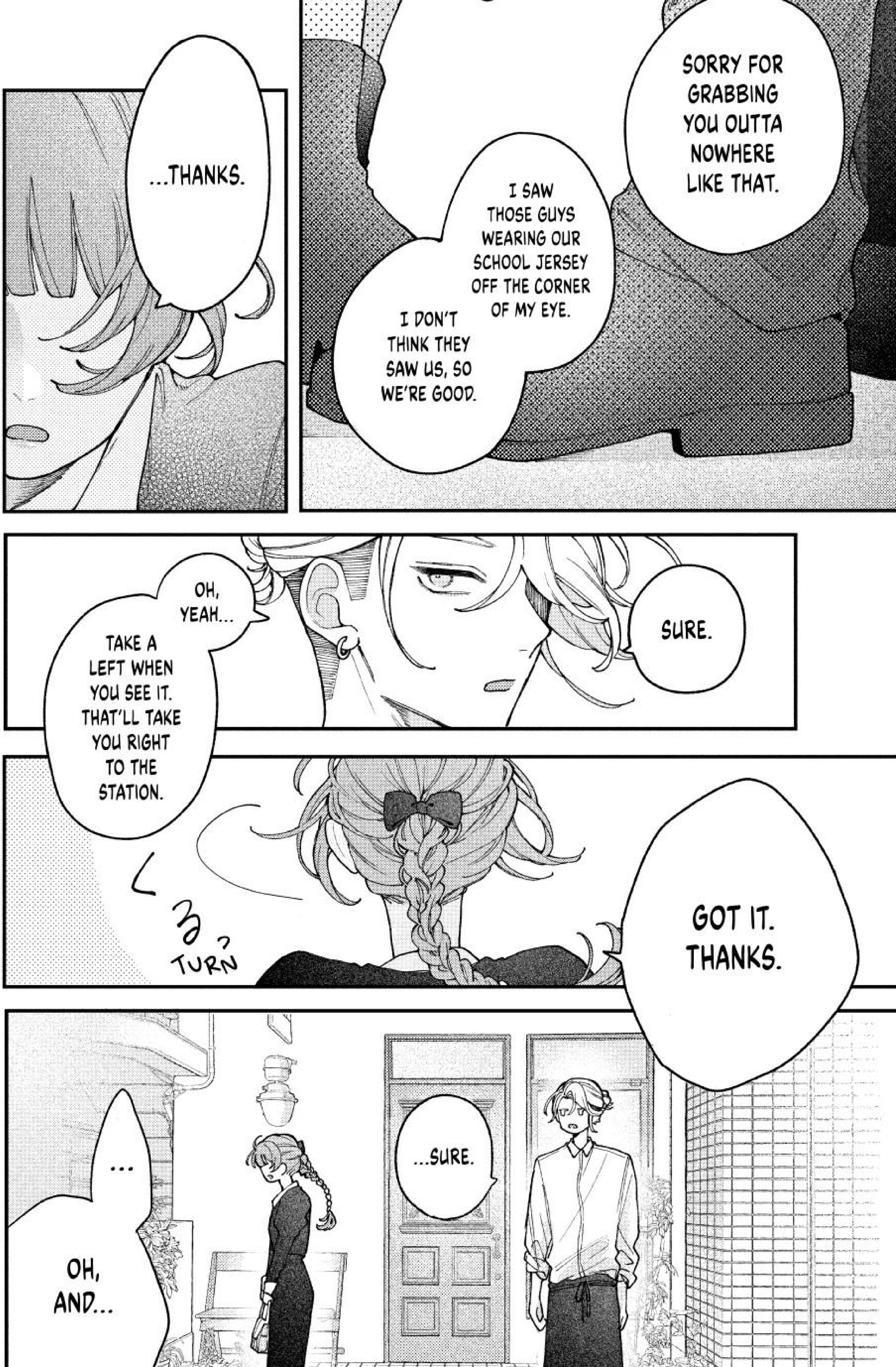

IT'S JUST NOT FAIR...
ギュ
SQUEEZE

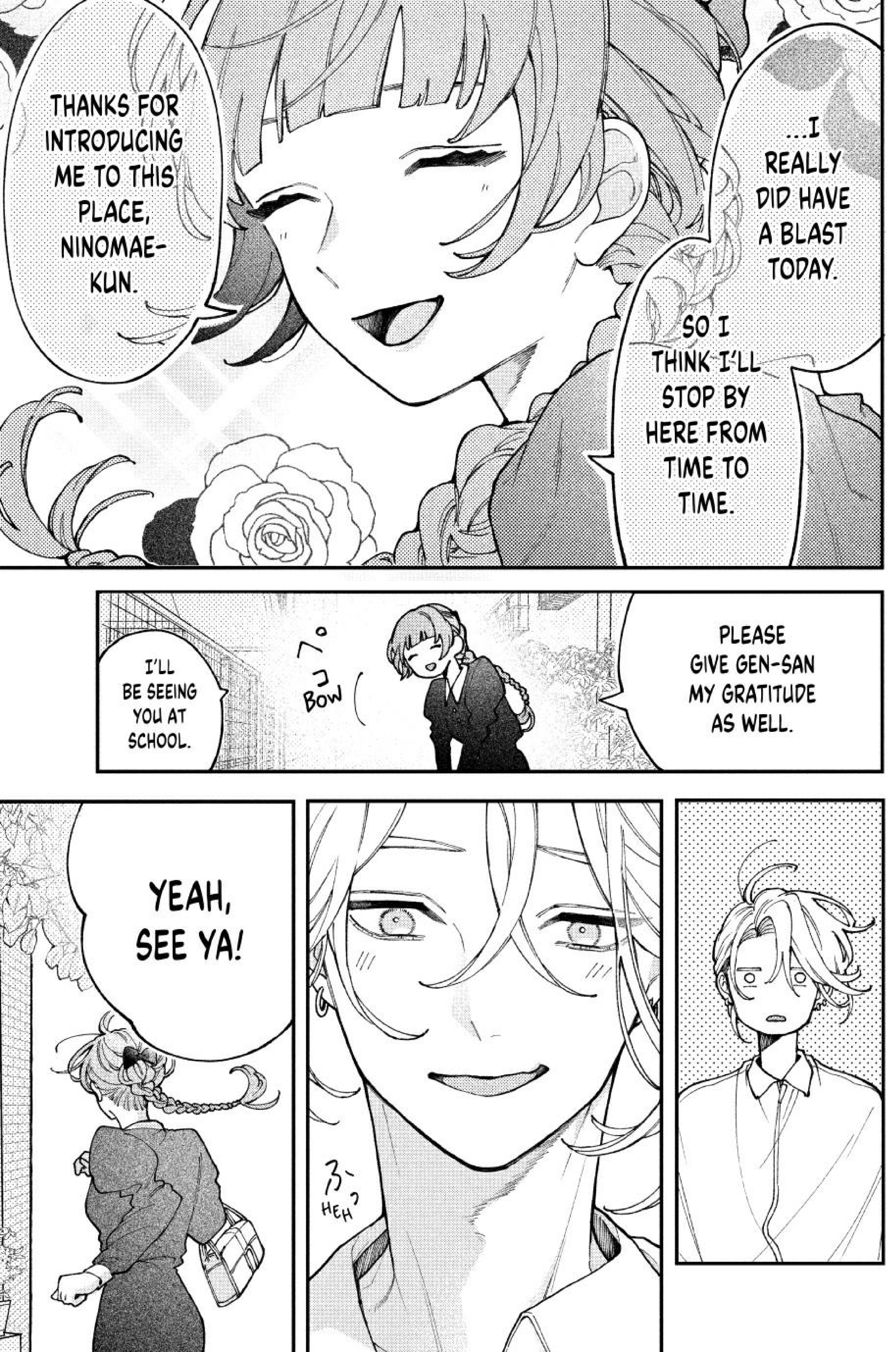

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO LET HIS HAIR DOWN MORE.
RIGHT BACK AT YOU.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
I KNOW MY LIMITS, SO I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF JUST FINE.
AND HERE I THOUGHT I WAS BEING THE GENTLEMAN IN OUR CONVO.
YOU'RE JUST WAY TOO BADASS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD.

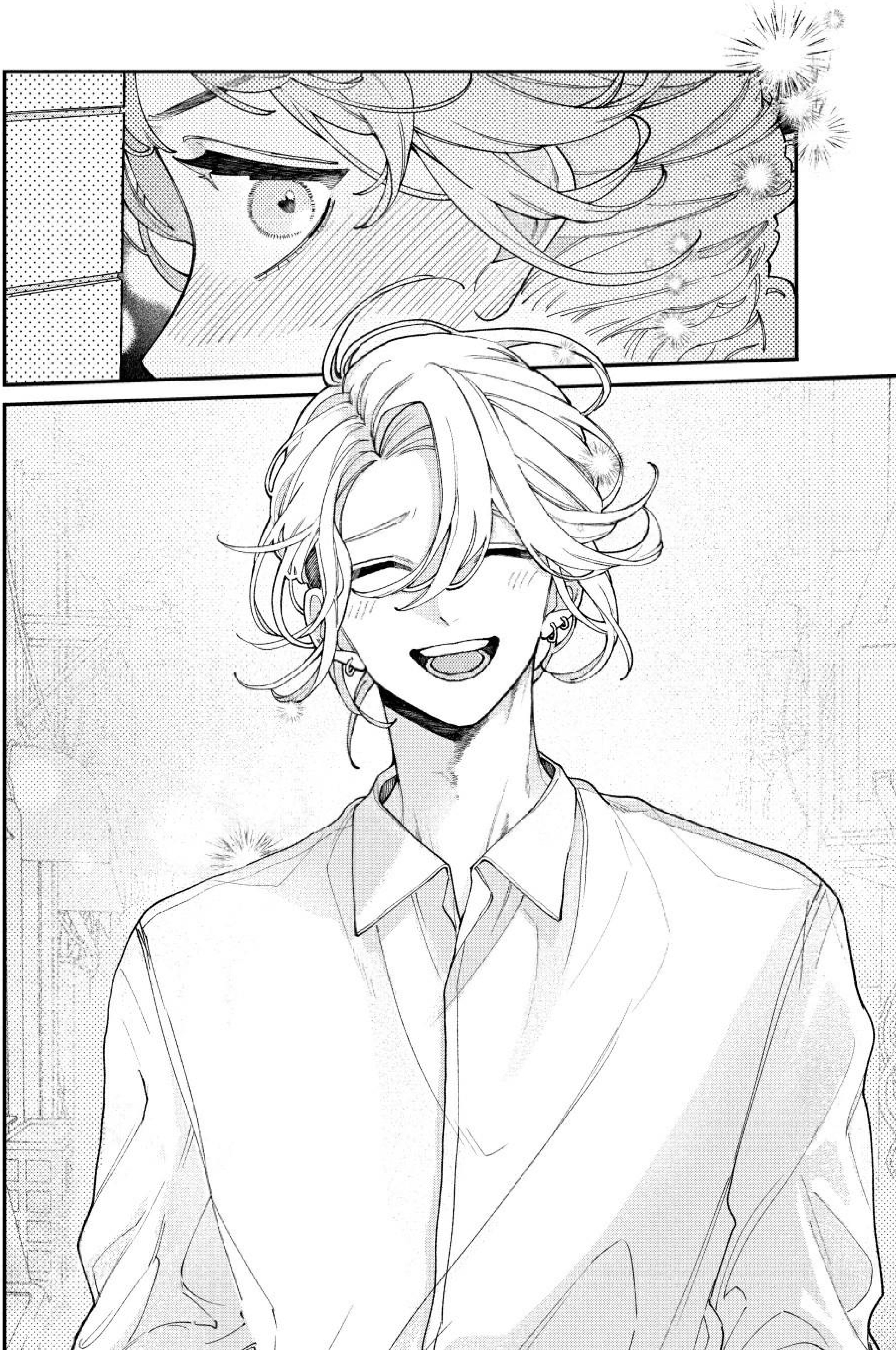

BUT I LIKE IT.
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
THINK THAT'S WHY...
...I FIND IT SO EASY TO HANG OUT WITH YOU.
BA-DUMP

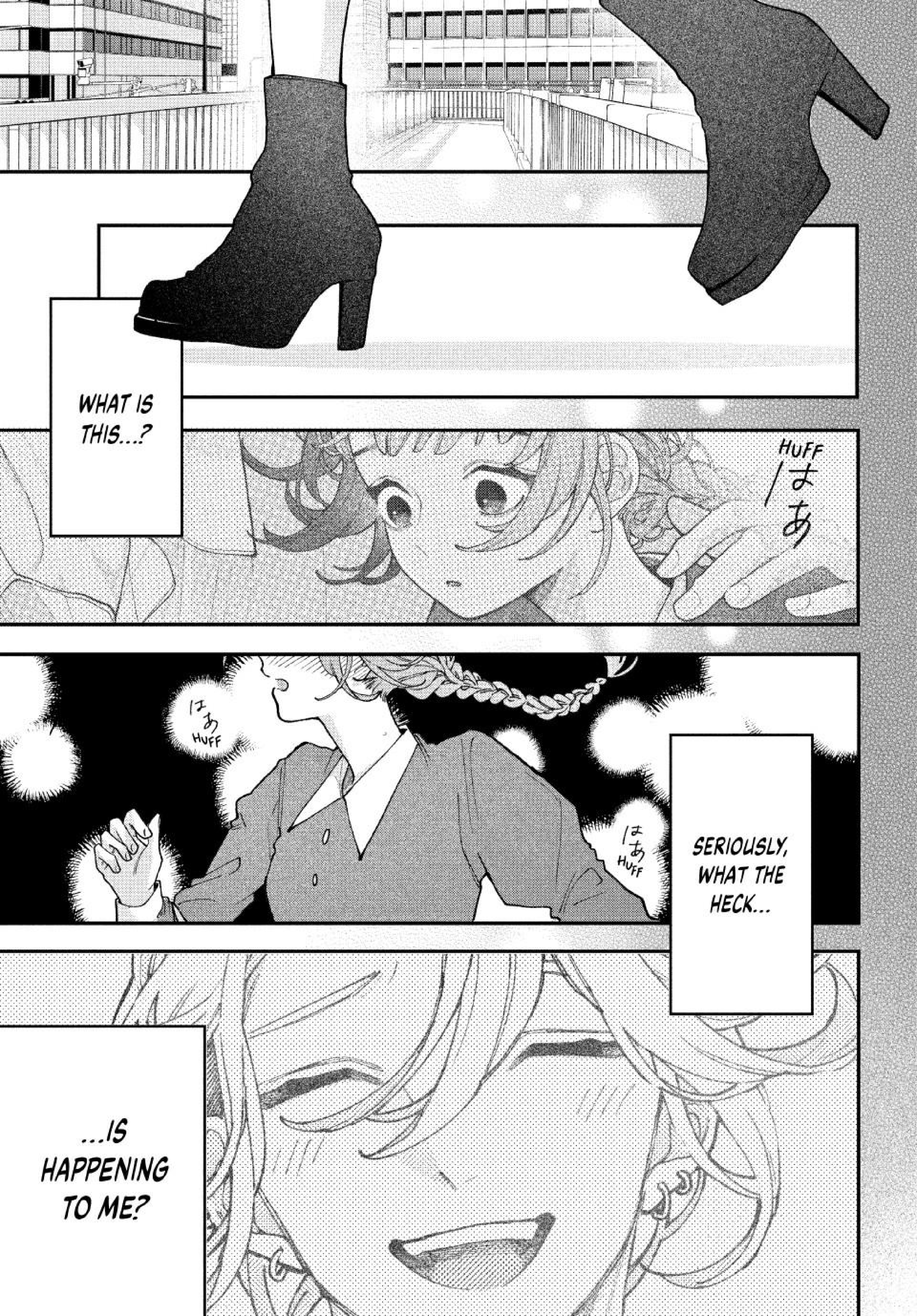


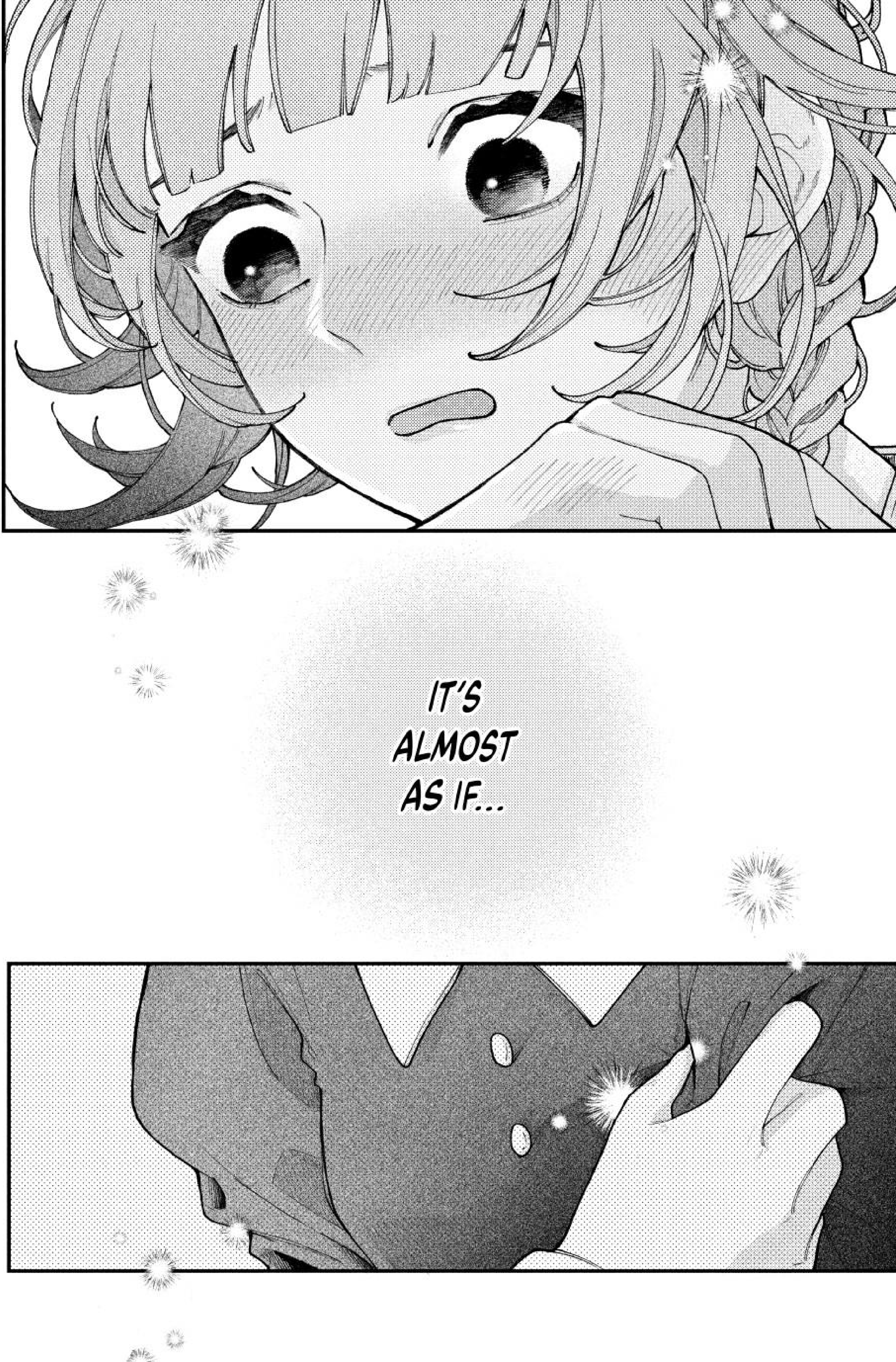

So like I was saying...
ぱ
FWP
THAT WAS CLOSE.

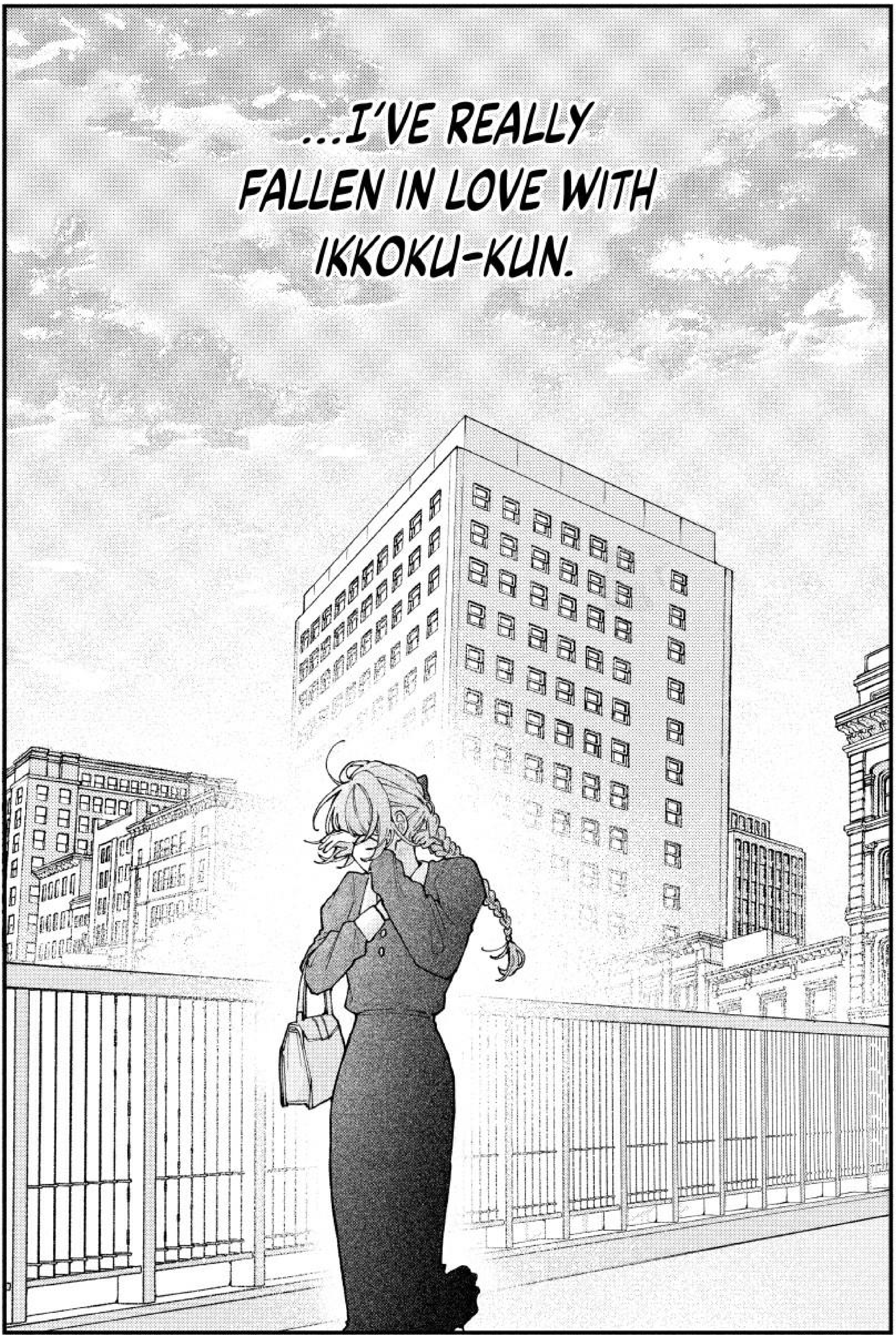

SORRY FOR GRABBING YOU OUTTA NOWHERE LIKE THAT.
I SAW THOSE GUYS WEARING OUR SCHOOL JERSEY OFF THE CORNER OF MY EYE.
I DON'T THINK THEY SAW US, SO WE'RE GOOD.
...THANKS.
SURE.
OH, YEAH... TAKE A LEFT WHEN YOU SEE IT. THAT'LL TAKE YOU RIGHT TO THE STATION.
GOT IT. THANKS.
くる TURN
...SURE.
...
OH, AND...


...I REALLY DID HAVE A BLAST TODAY.
SO I THINK I'LL STOP BY HERE FROM TIME TO TIME.
THANKS FOR INTRODUCING ME TO THIS PLACE, NINOMAE-KUN.
PLEASE GIVE GEN-SAN MY GRATITUDE AS WELL.
ペコ BOW
I'LL BE SEEING YOU AT SCHOOL.
ふっ HEH
YEAH, SEE YA!




WHAT IS THIS...?
HUFF はあ
はあ HUFF
はあ HUFF
SERIOUSLY, WHAT THE HECK...
...IS HAPPENING TO ME?

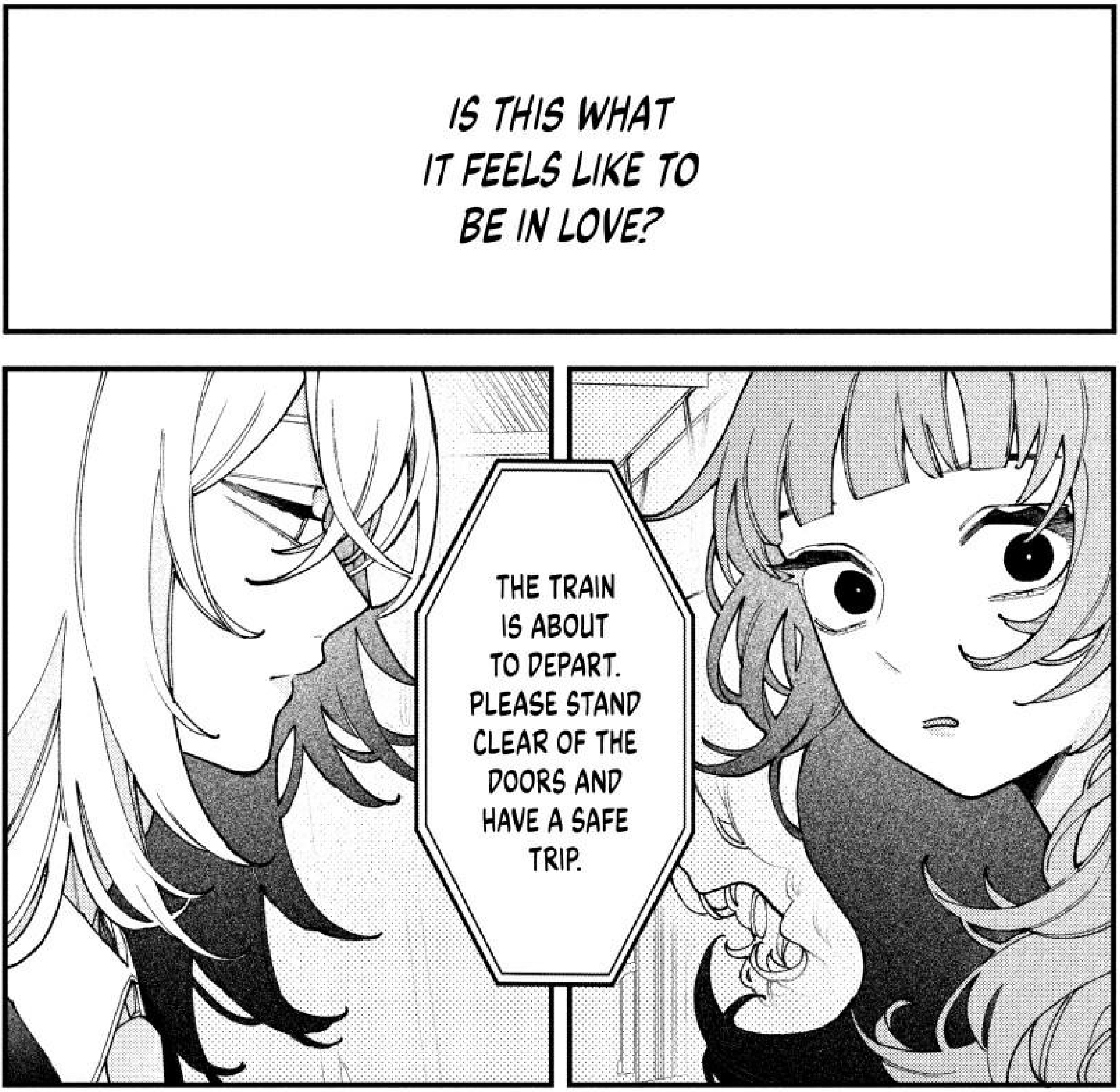

IT'S ALMOST AS IF...


...I'VE REALLY FALLEN IN LOVE WITH IKKOKU-KUN.

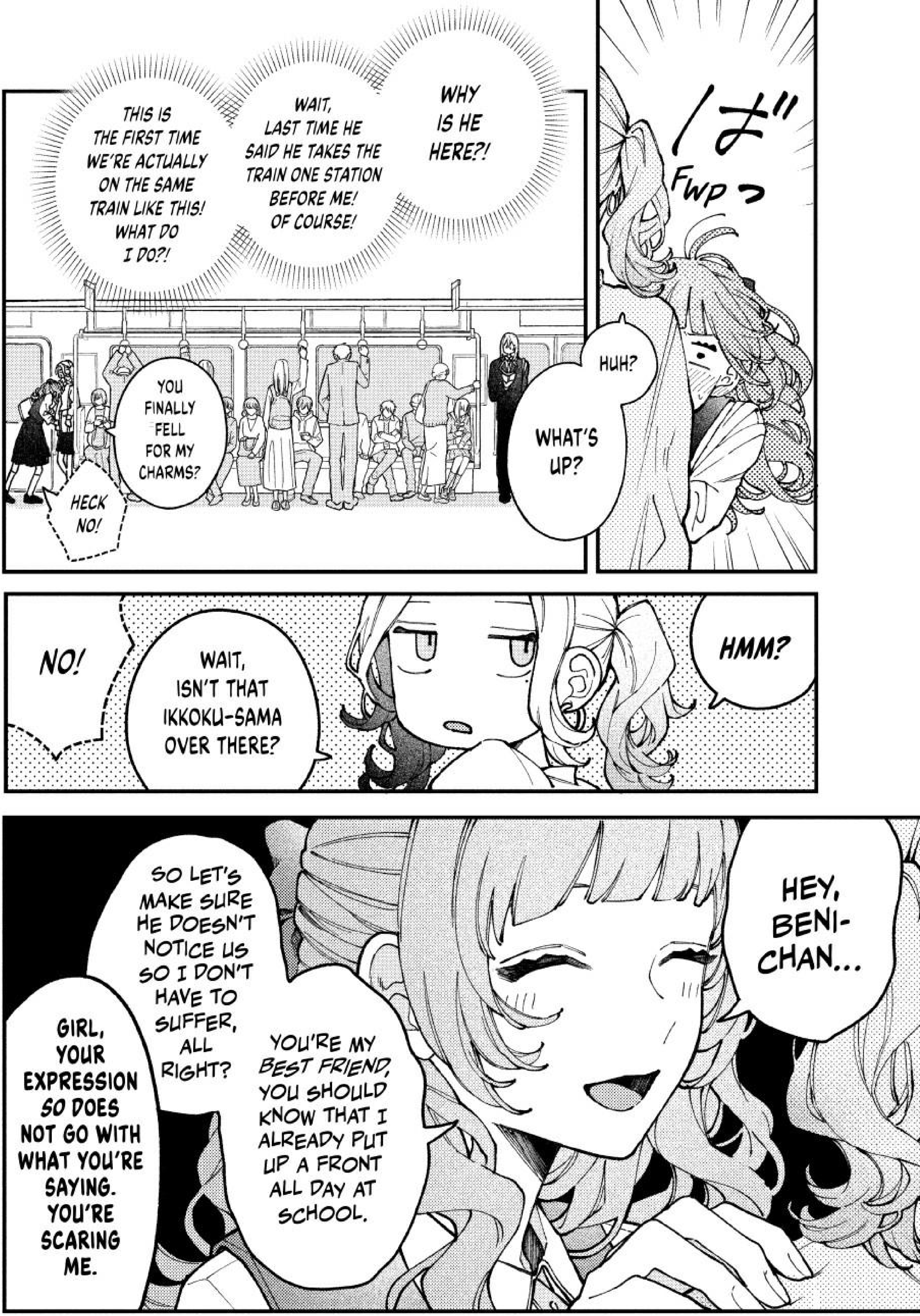
EP. 4

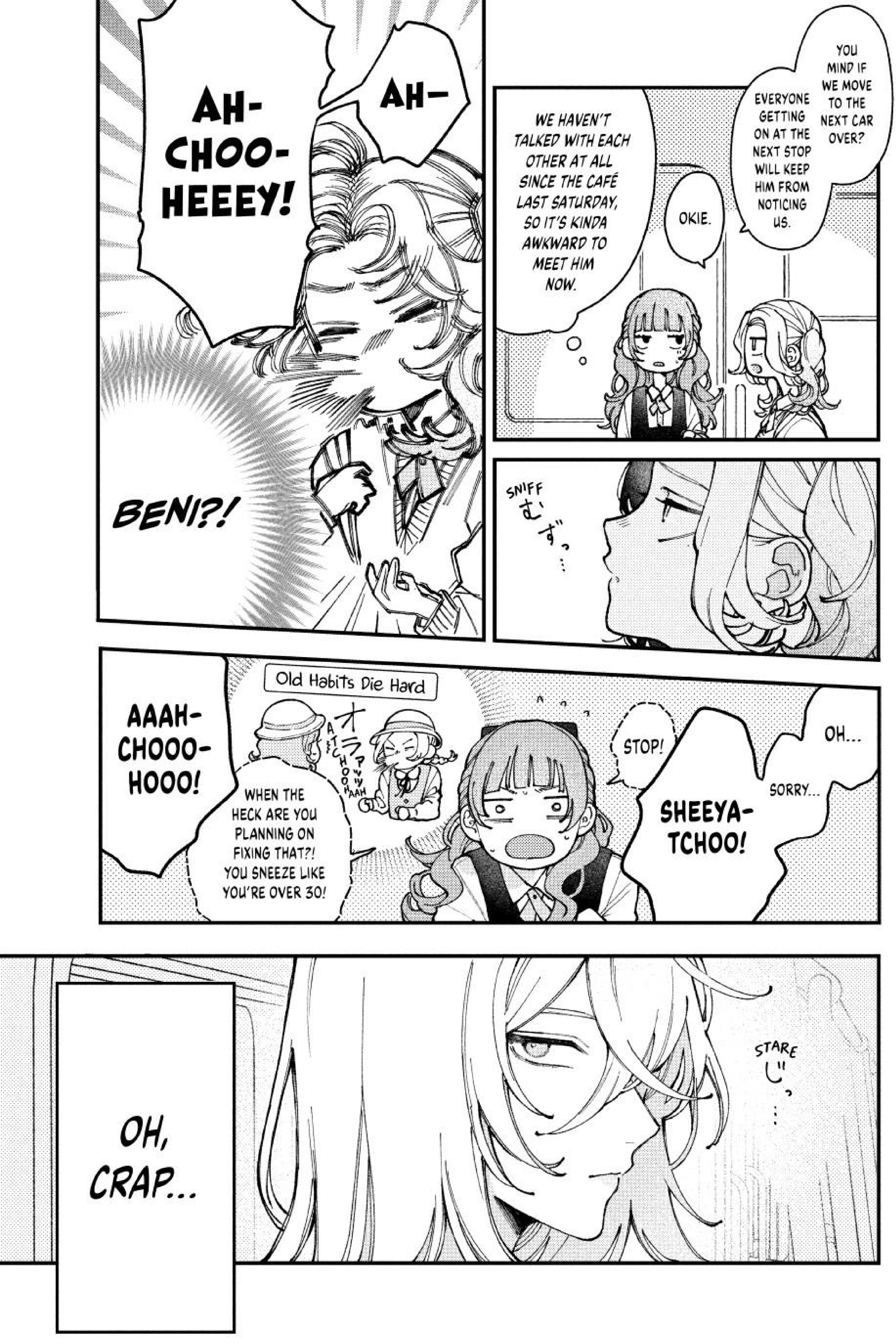
Surprising Confrontation

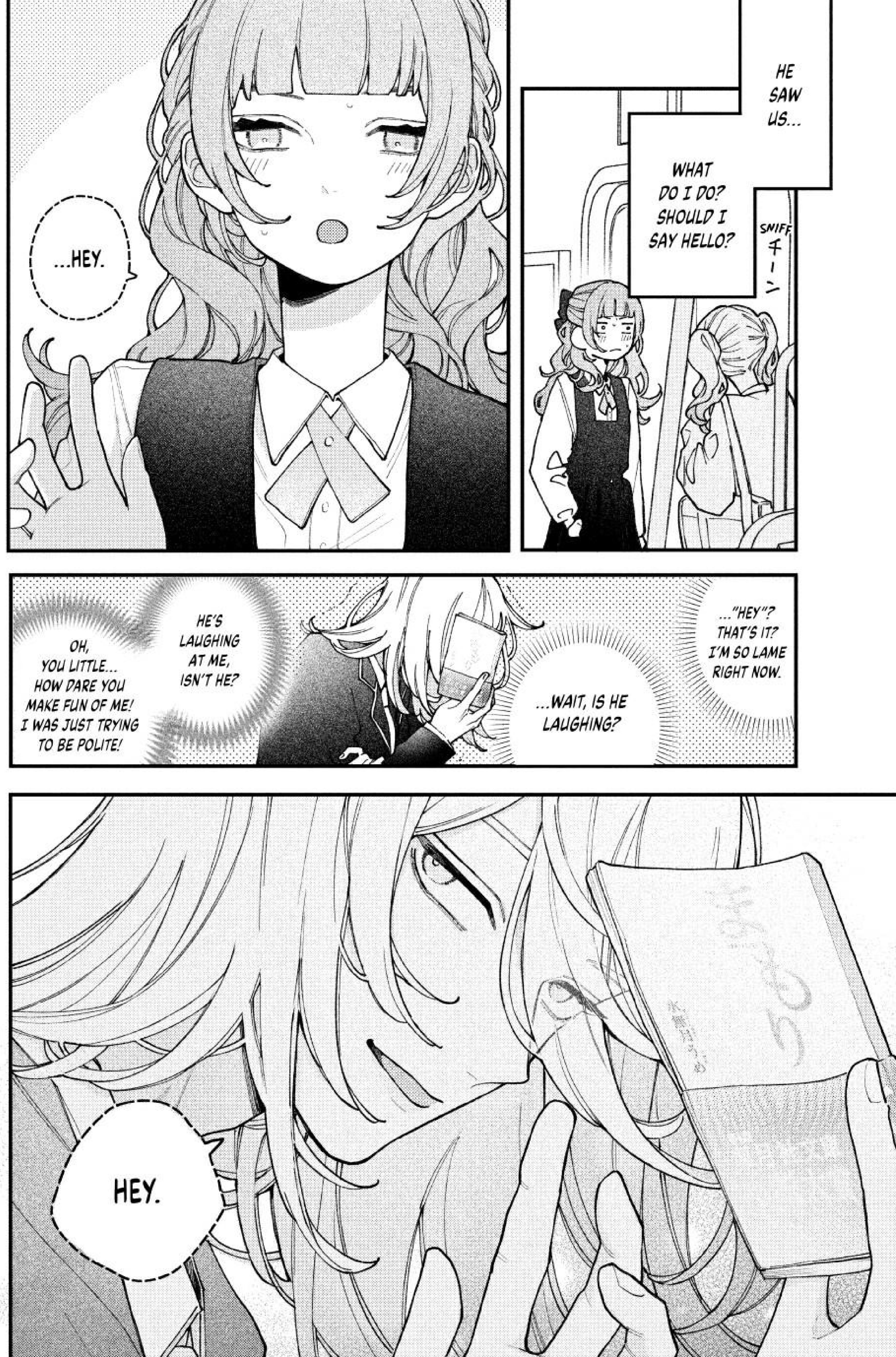
FALL IN LOVE, YOU FALSE ANGELS

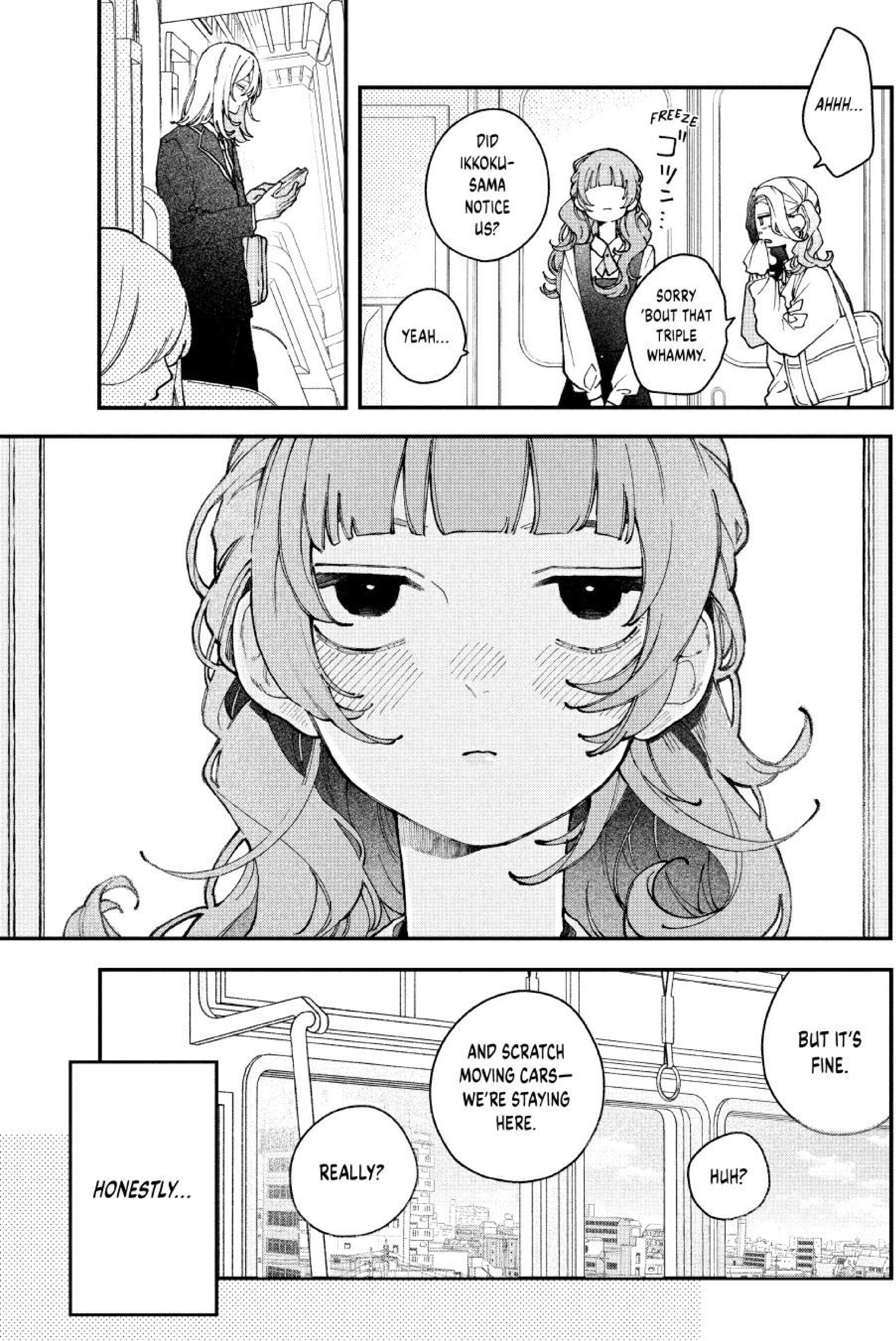

IS THIS WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO BE IN LOVE?
THE TRAIN IS ABOUT TO DEPART. PLEASE STAND CLEAR OF THE DOORS AND HAVE A SAFE TRIP.

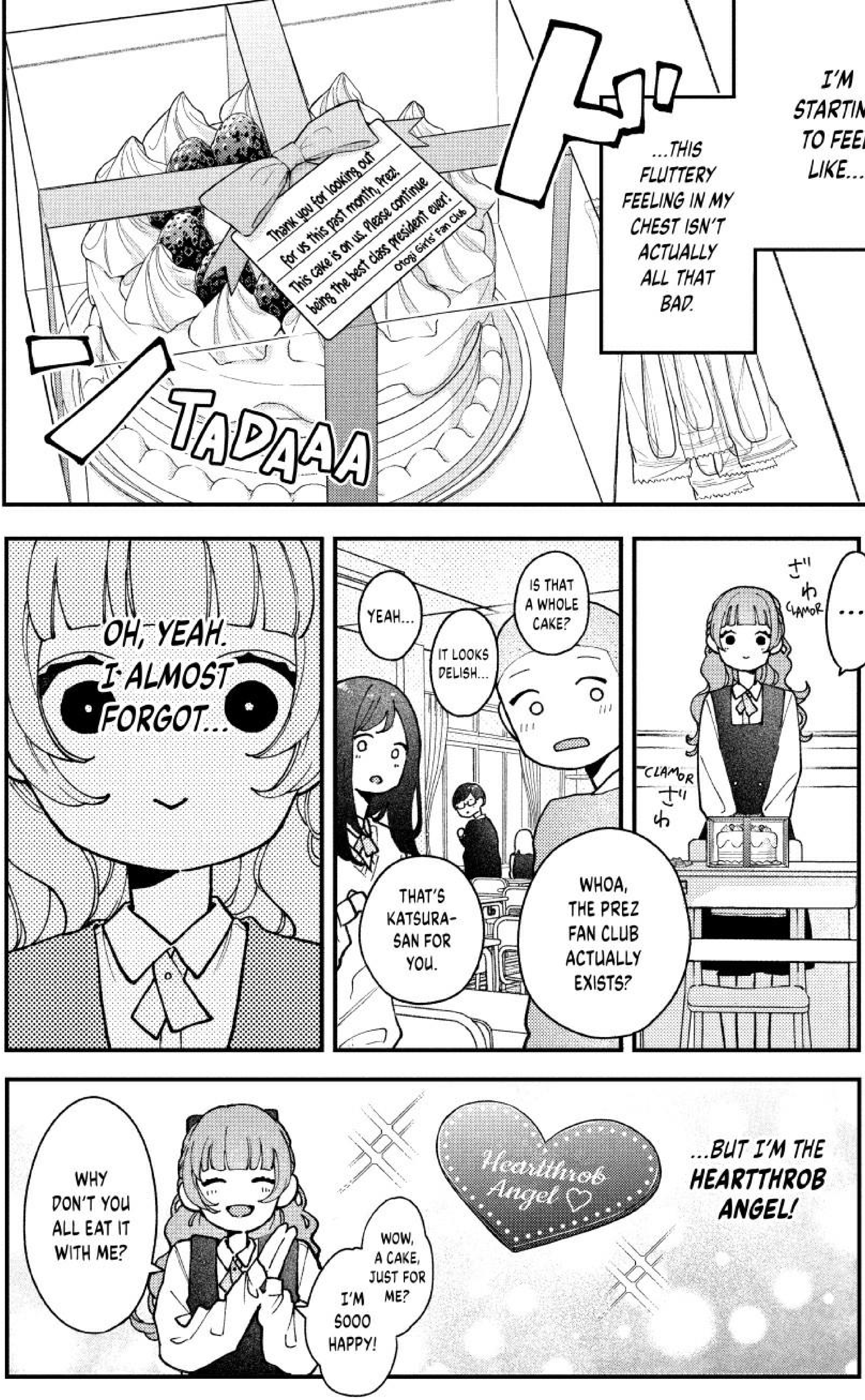
Fall in Love,
You False Angels

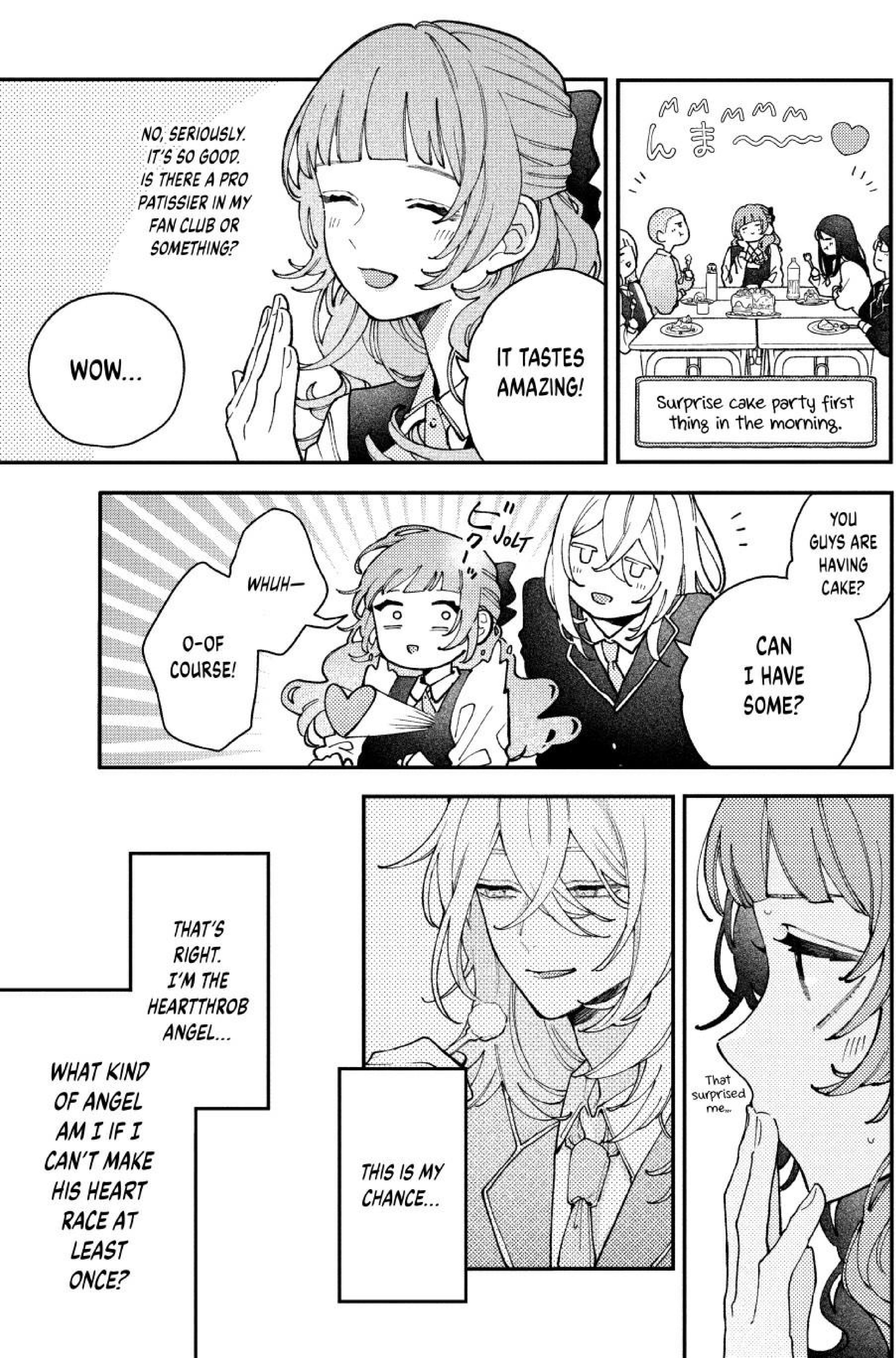

ぱ
Fwp っ
HUH?
WHAT'S UP?
WHY IS HE HERE?!
WAIT, LAST TIME HE SAID HE TAKES THE TRAIN ONE STATION BEFORE ME! OF COURSE!
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'RE ACTUALLY ON THE SAME TRAIN LIKE THIS! WHAT DO I DO?!
YOU FINALLY FELL FOR MY CHARMS?
HECK NO!
HMM?
WAIT, ISN'T THAT IKKOKU-SAMA OVER THERE?
NO!
HEY, BENI-CHAN...
YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND, YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT I ALREADY PUT UP A FRONT ALL DAY AT SCHOOL.
SO LET'S MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T NOTICE US SO I DON'T HAVE TO SUFFER, ALL RIGHT?
GIRL, YOUR EXPRESSION SO DOES NOT GO WITH WHAT YOU'RE SAYING. YOU'RE SCARING ME.

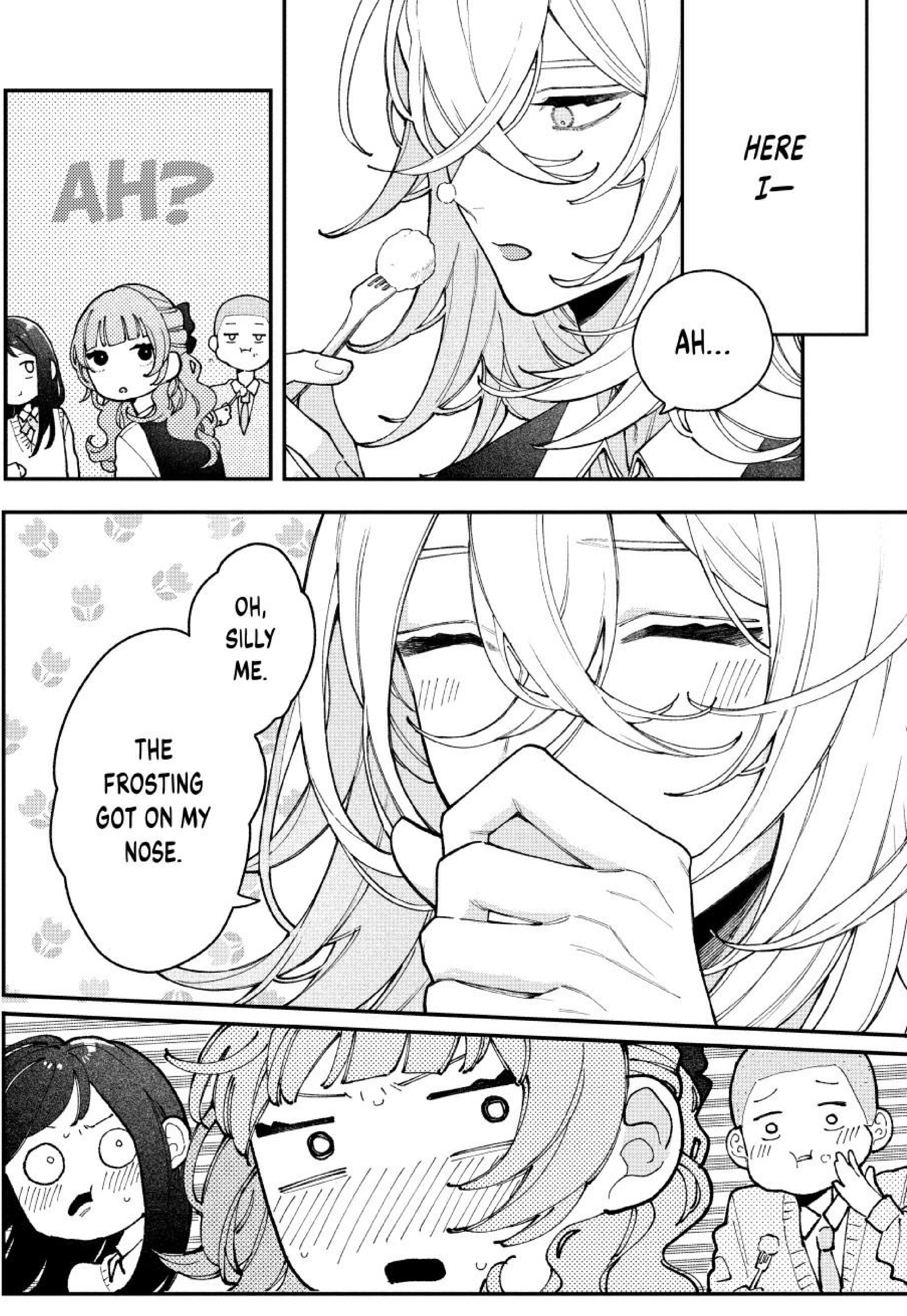

YOU MIND IF WE MOVE TO THE NEXT CAR OVER?
EVERYONE GETTING ON AT THE NEXT STOP WILL KEEP HIM FROM NOTICING US.
OKIE.
WE HAVEN'T TALKED WITH EACH OTHER AT ALL SINCE THE CAFÉ LAST SATURDAY, SO IT'S KINDA AWKWARD TO MEET HIM NOW.
SNIFF むずっ…
AH–
AH-CHOO-HEEEY!
BENI?!
OH… SORRY…
SHEEYA-TCHOO!
STOP!
Old Habits Die Hard
ATCHOOHAAH オラァッ
WHEN THE HECK ARE YOU PLANNING ON FIXING THAT?! YOU SNEEZE LIKE YOU'RE OVER 30!
AAAH-CHOOO-HOOO!
STARE じっ…
OH, CRAP…

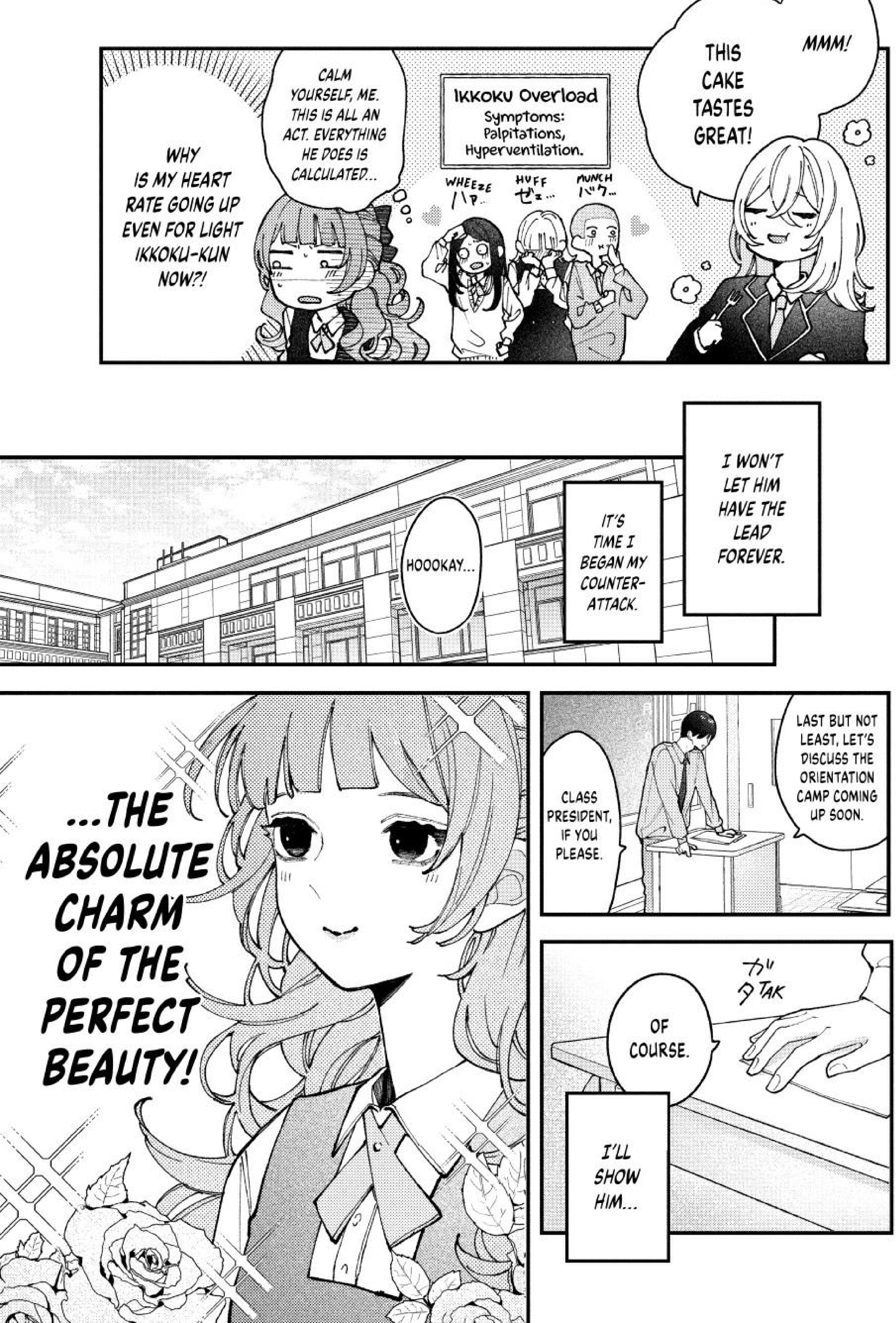

HE SAW US...
WHAT DO I DO? SHOULD I SAY HELLO?
SNIFF
チーン
...HEY.
..."HEY"? THAT'S IT? I'M SO LAME RIGHT NOW.
...WAIT, IS HE LAUGHING?
HE'S LAUGHING AT ME, ISN'T HE?
OH, YOU LITTLE... HOW DARE YOU MAKE FUN OF ME! I WAS JUST TRYING TO BE POLITE!
HEY.

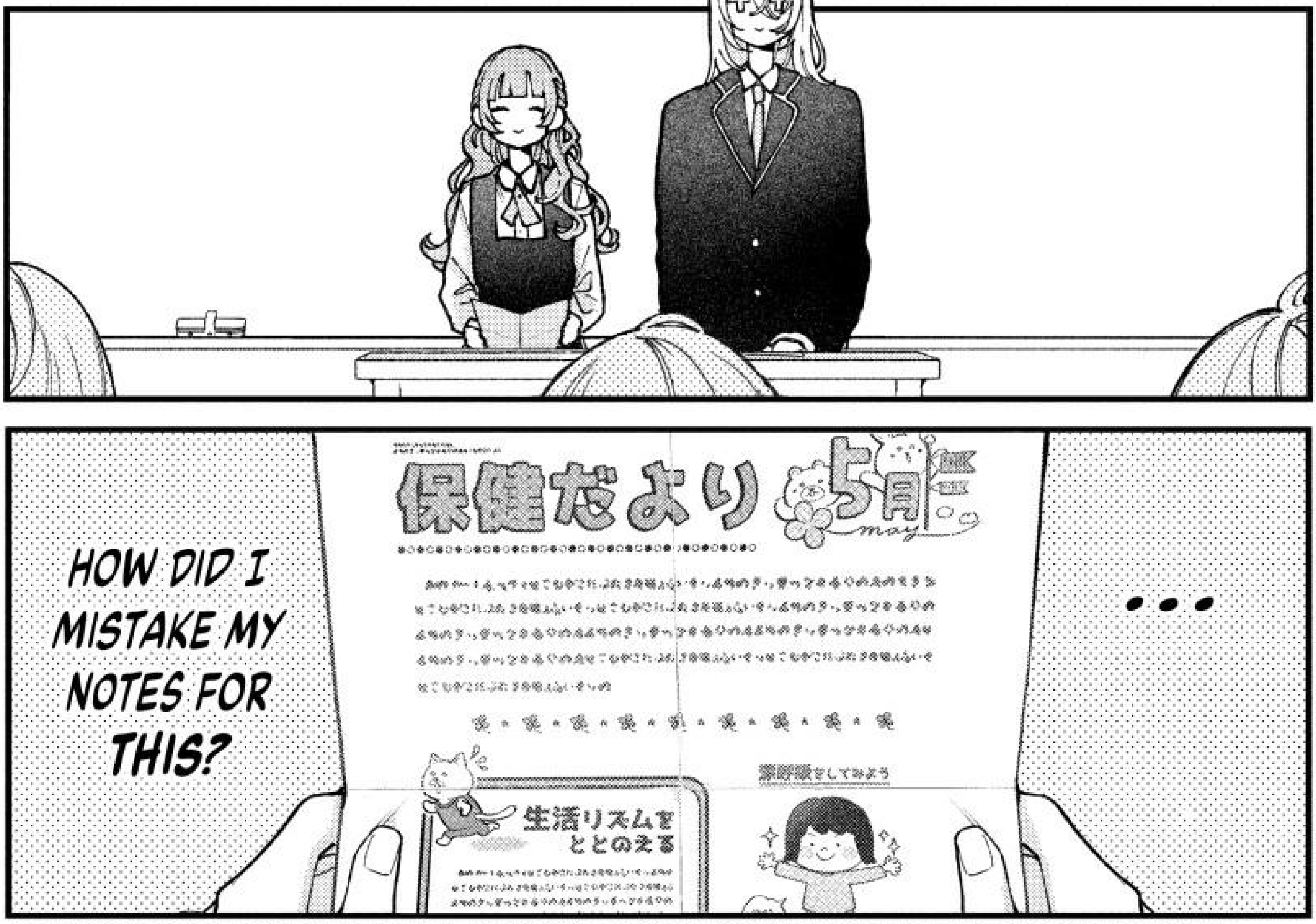

AHHH...
FREEZE
ゴッ
DID IKKOKU-SAMA NOTICE US?
SORRY 'BOUT THAT TRIPLE WHAMMY.
YEAH...
BUT IT'S FINE.
HUH?
AND SCRATCH MOVING CARS—WE'RE STAYING HERE.
REALLY?
HONESTLY...


I'M STARTING TO FEEL LIKE...
...THIS FLUTTERY FEELING IN MY CHEST ISN'T ACTUALLY ALL THAT BAD.
Thank you for looking out for us this past month, Prez! This cake is on us. Please continue being the best class president ever!
Otogi Girls' Fan Club
TADAAA
ざわ CLAMOR
...
CLAMOR ざわ
IS THAT A WHOLE CAKE?
YEAH...
IT LOOKS DELISH...
WHOA, THE PREZ FAN CLUB ACTUALLY EXISTS?
THAT'S KATSURA-SAN FOR YOU.
OH, YEAH. I ALMOST FORGOT...
...BUT I'M THE HEARTTHROB ANGEL!
Heartthrob Angel ♡
WOW, A CAKE, JUST FOR ME?
I'M SOOO HAPPY!
WHY DON'T YOU ALL EAT IT WITH ME?

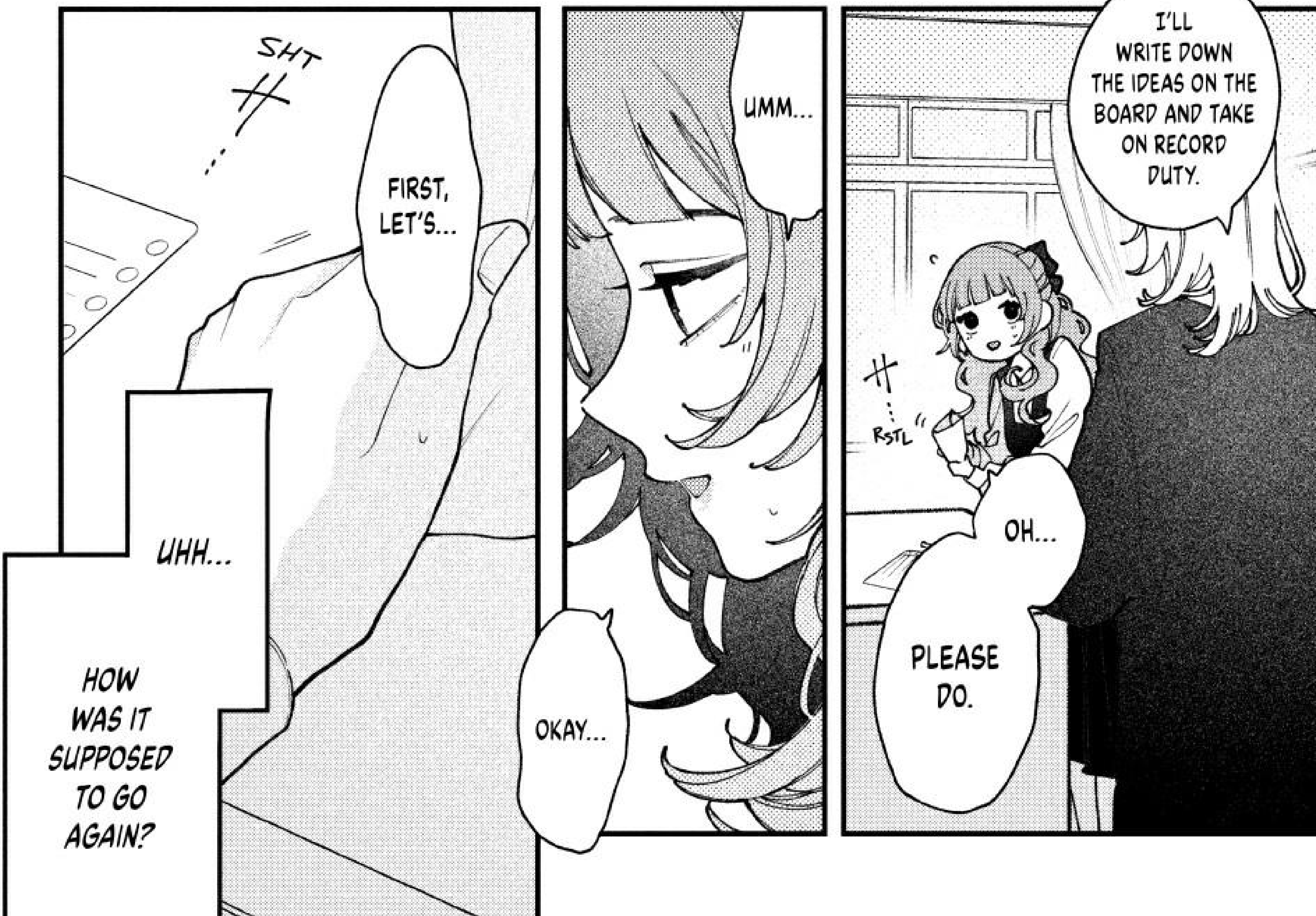

MMMMM
んま〜〜〜♡
Surprise cake party first thing in the morning.
IT TASTES AMAZING!
NO, SERIOUSLY. IT'S SO GOOD. IS THERE A PRO PATISSIER IN MY FAN CLUB OR SOMETHING?
WOW...
YOU GUYS ARE HAVING CAKE?
CAN I HAVE SOME?
ビクッ
JOLT
WHUH—
O-OF COURSE!
That surprised me...
THIS IS MY CHANCE...
THAT'S RIGHT. I'M THE HEARTTHROB ANGEL...
WHAT KIND OF ANGEL AM I IF I CAN'T MAKE HIS HEART RACE AT LEAST ONCE?

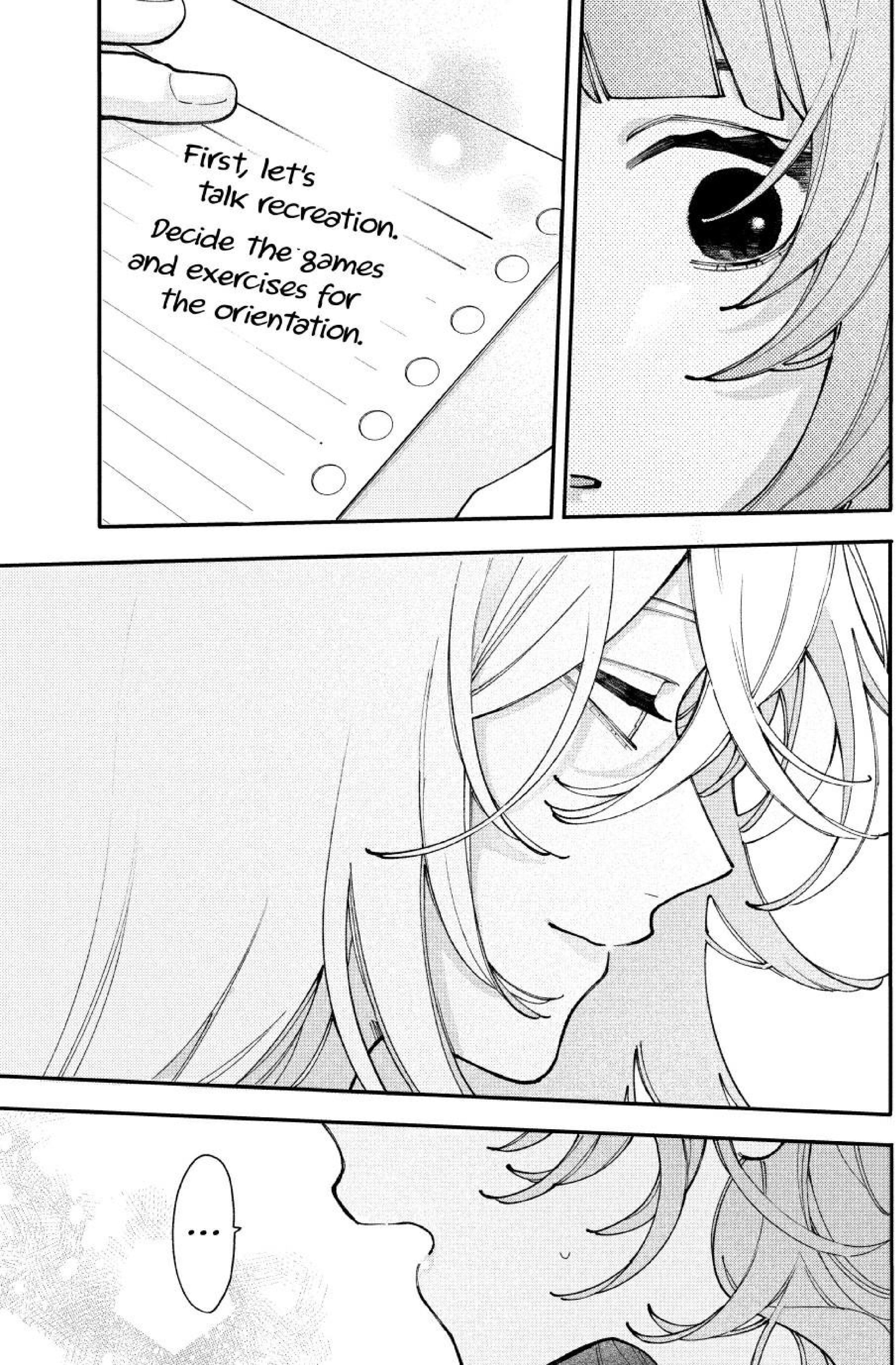

HERE I—
AH...
AH?
OH, SILLY ME.
THE FROSTING GOT ON MY NOSE.

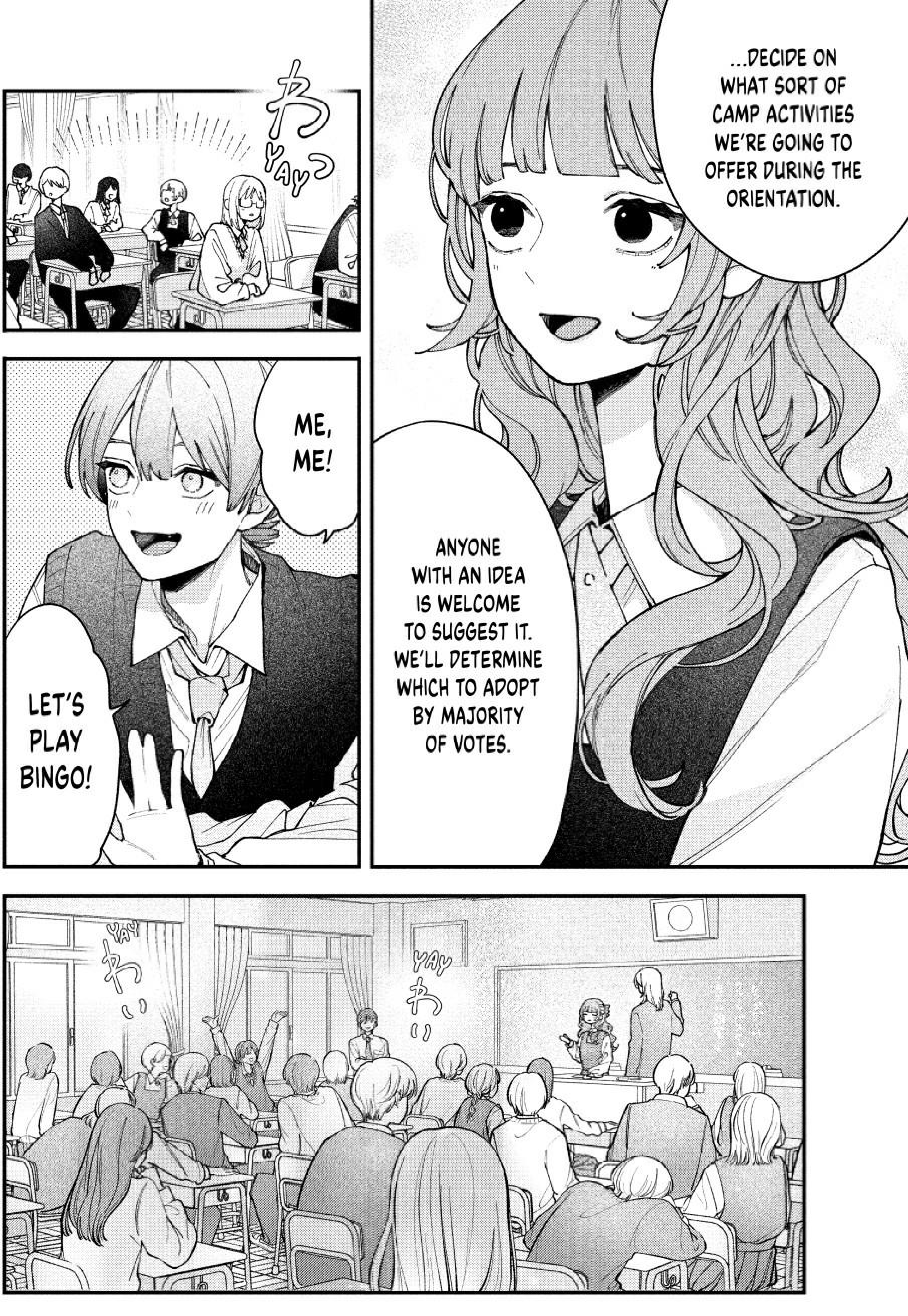

MMM!
THIS CAKE TASTES GREAT!
MUNCH バク…
HUFF ゼェ…
WHEEZE ハァ…
Ikkoku Overload
Symptoms: Palpitations, Hyperventilation.
CALM YOURSELF, ME. THIS IS ALL AN ACT. EVERYTHING HE DOES IS CALCULATED…
WHY IS MY HEART RATE GOING UP EVEN FOR LIGHT IKKOKU-KUN NOW?!
I WON'T LET HIM HAVE THE LEAD FOREVER.
IT'S TIME I BEGAN MY COUNTER-ATTACK.
HOOOKAY…
LAST BUT NOT LEAST, LET'S DISCUSS THE ORIENTATION CAMP COMING UP SOON.
CLASS PRESIDENT, IF YOU PLEASE.
ガタ TAK
OF COURSE.
I'LL SHOW HIM…
…THE ABSOLUTE CHARM OF THE PERFECT BEAUTY!

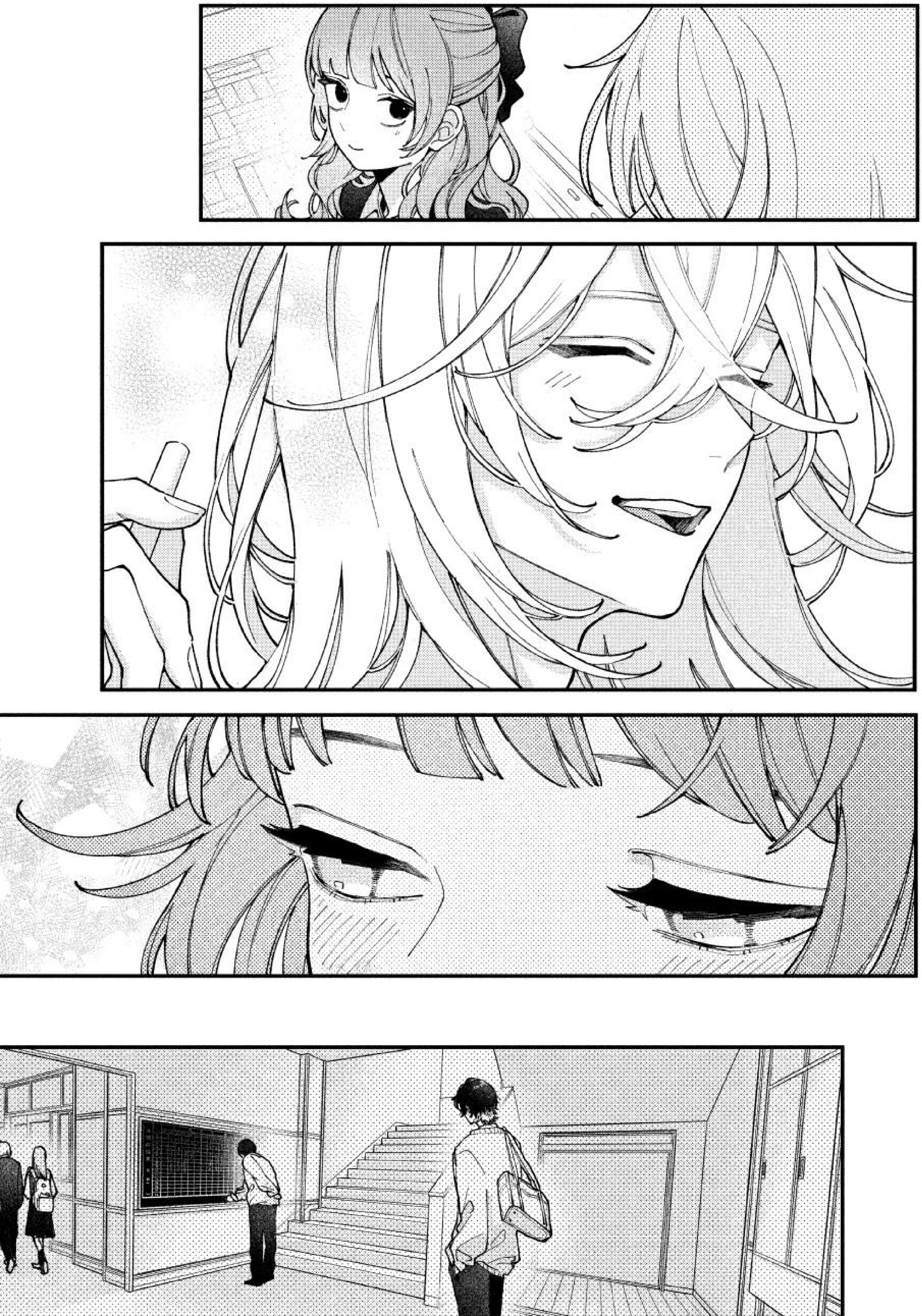

...
HOW DID I MISTAKE MY NOTES FOR **THIS?**
保健だより
5月
may
生活リズムをととのえる
深呼吸をしてみよう

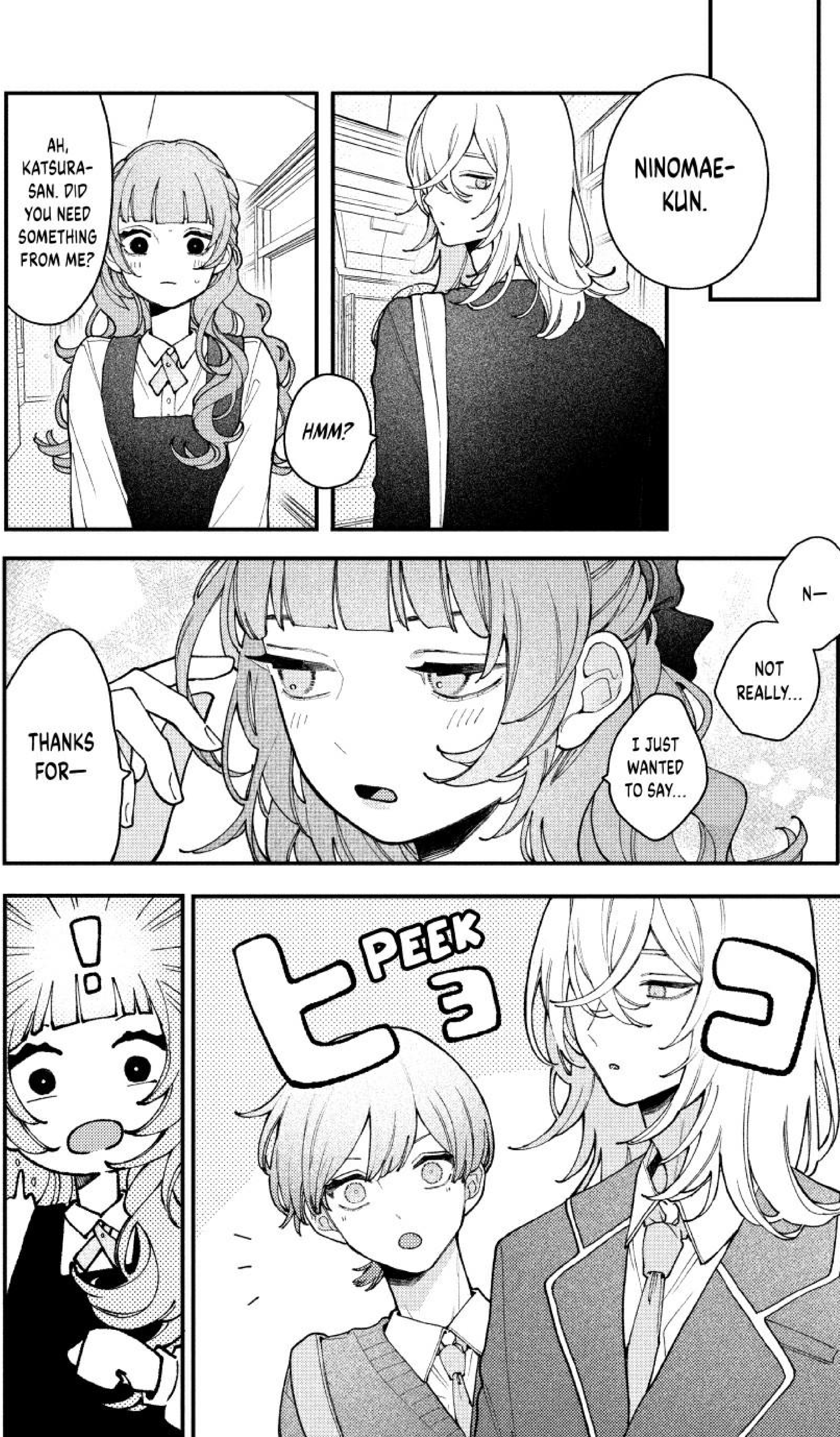
LETTER: **HEALTH NEWSLETTER (MAY),** MAINTAIN A HEALTHY ROUTINE! TAKE DEEP BREATHS TO CALM DOWN.

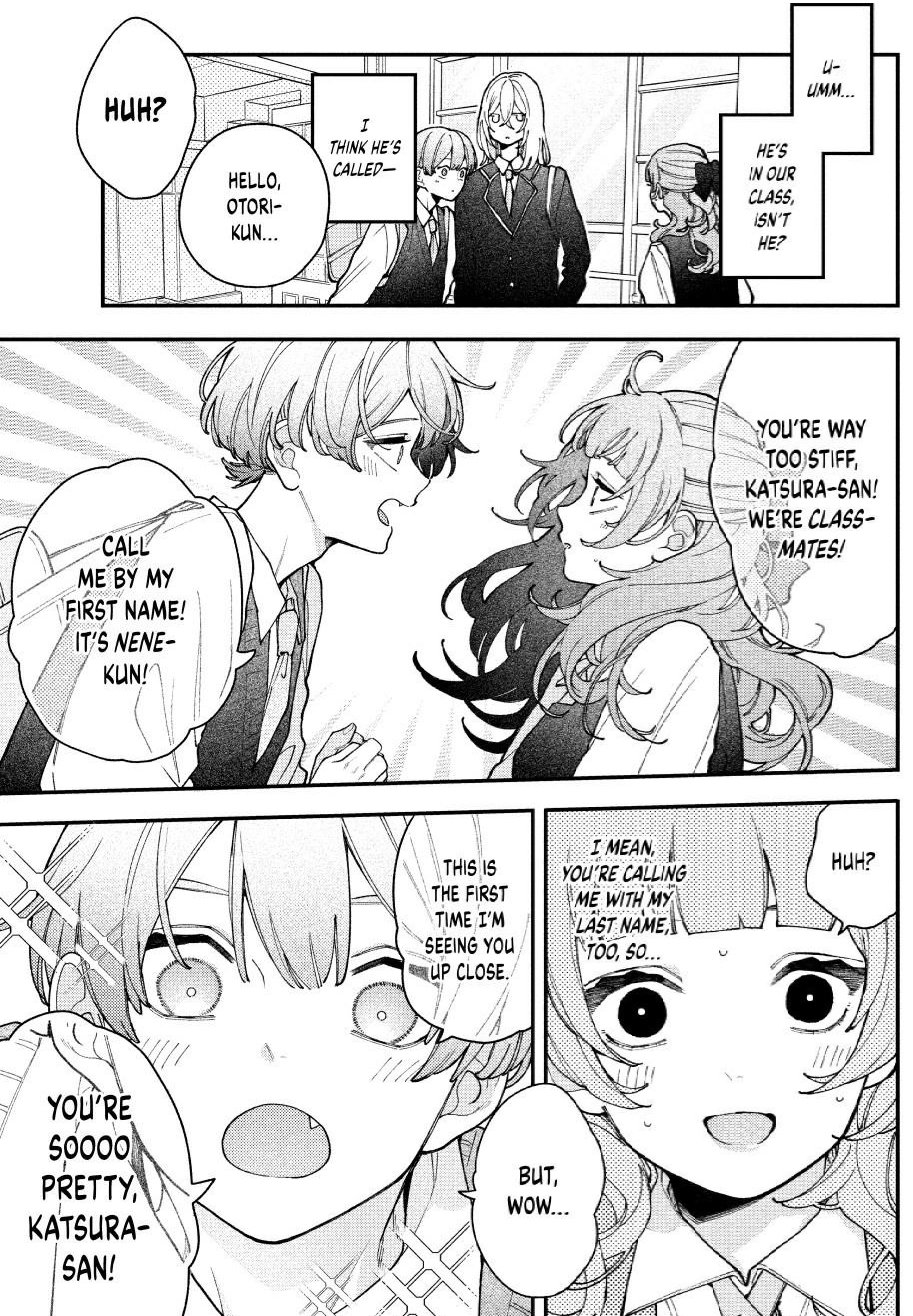

I'LL WRITE DOWN THE IDEAS ON THE BOARD AND TAKE ON RECORD DUTY.
RSTL
OH... PLEASE DO.
UMM...
OKAY...
SHT
FIRST, LET'S...
UHH...
HOW WAS IT SUPPOSED TO GO AGAIN?

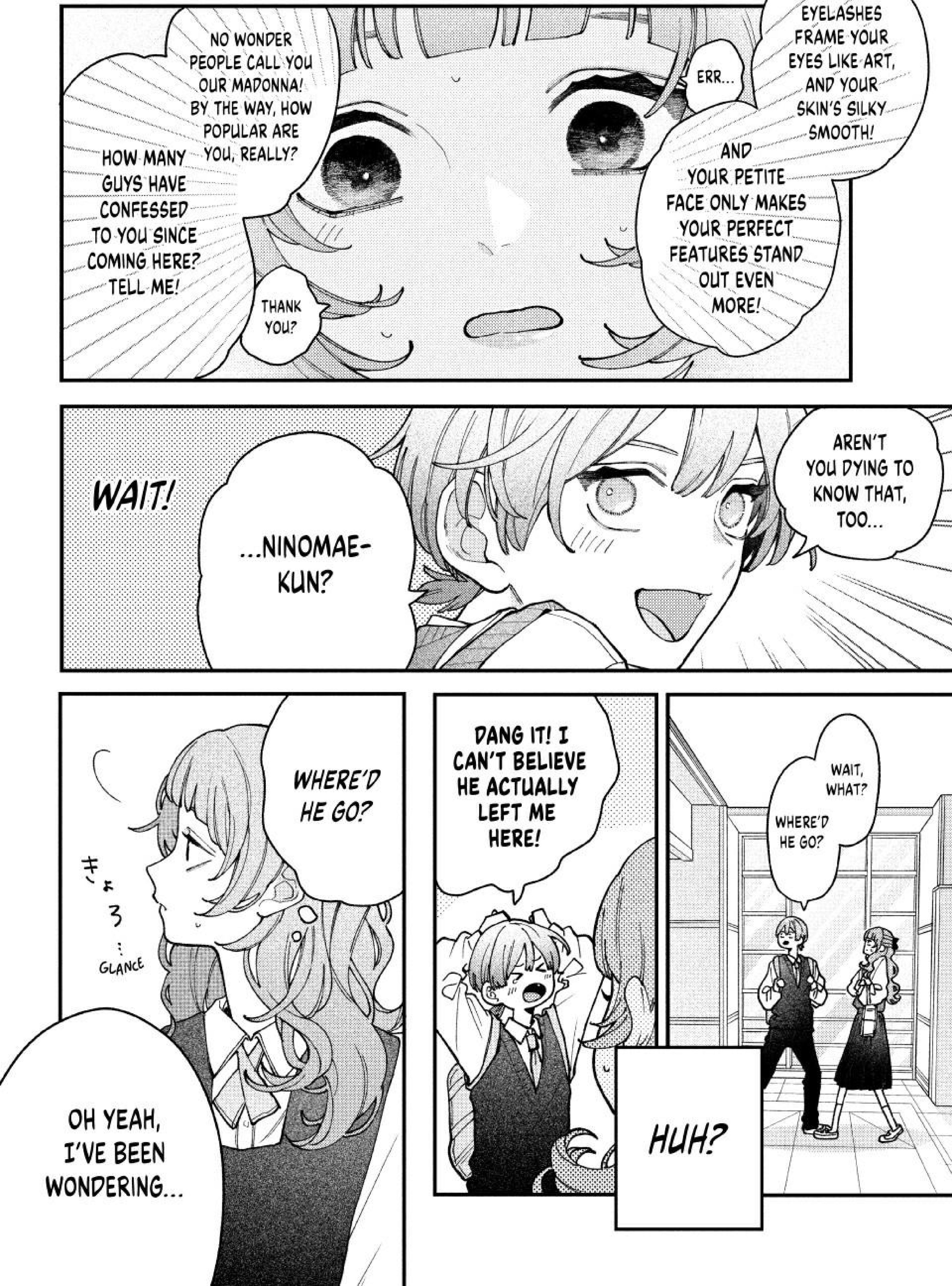

First, let's talk recreation. Decide the games and exercises for the orientation.
...

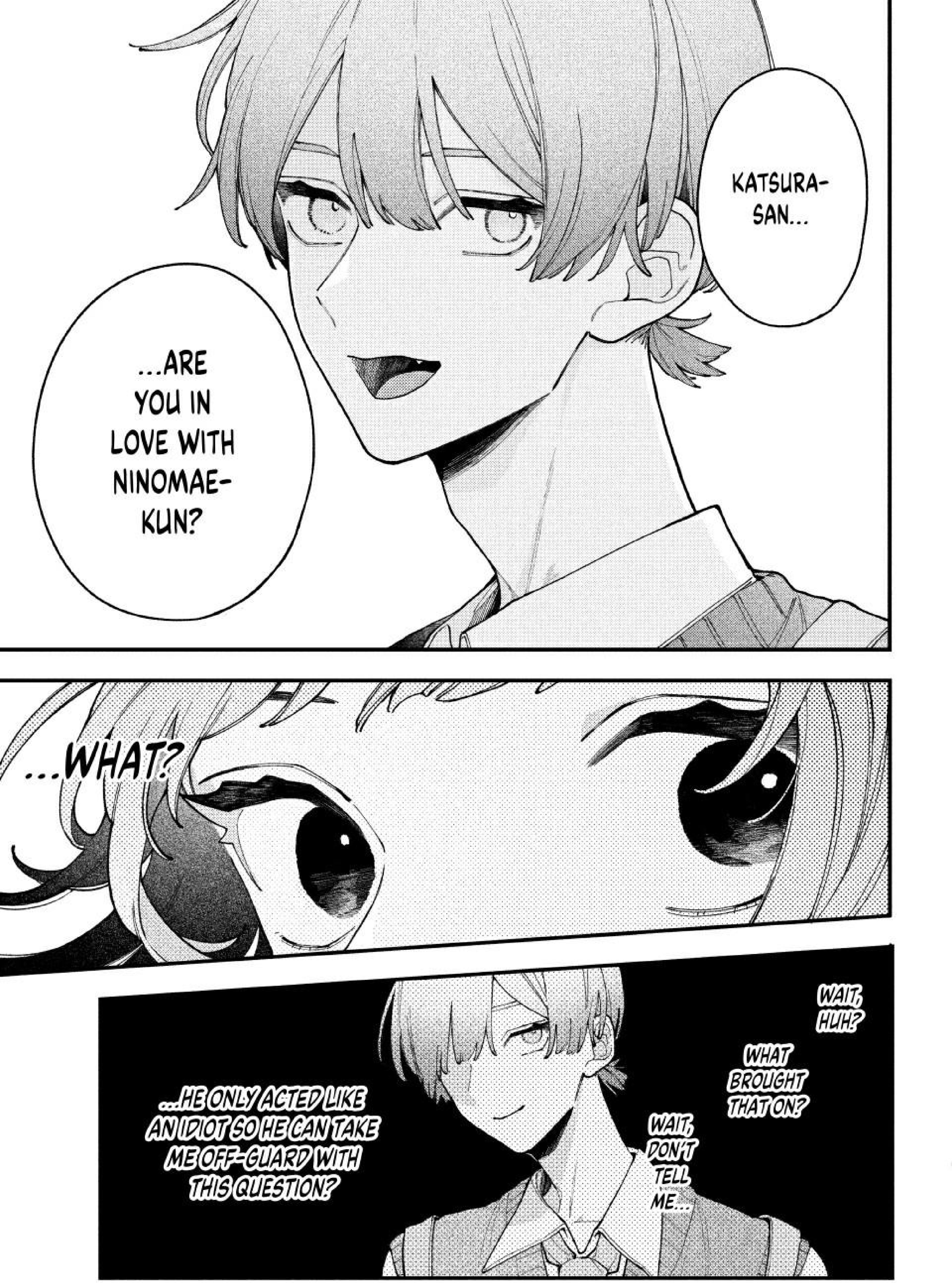

...DECIDE ON WHAT SORT OF CAMP ACTIVITIES WE'RE GOING TO OFFER DURING THE ORIENTATION.
ANYONE WITH AN IDEA IS WELCOME TO SUGGEST IT. WE'LL DETERMINE WHICH TO ADOPT BY MAJORITY OF VOTES.
わっ
YAY
ME, ME!
LET'S PLAY BINGO!
YAY
わい
YAY
わい

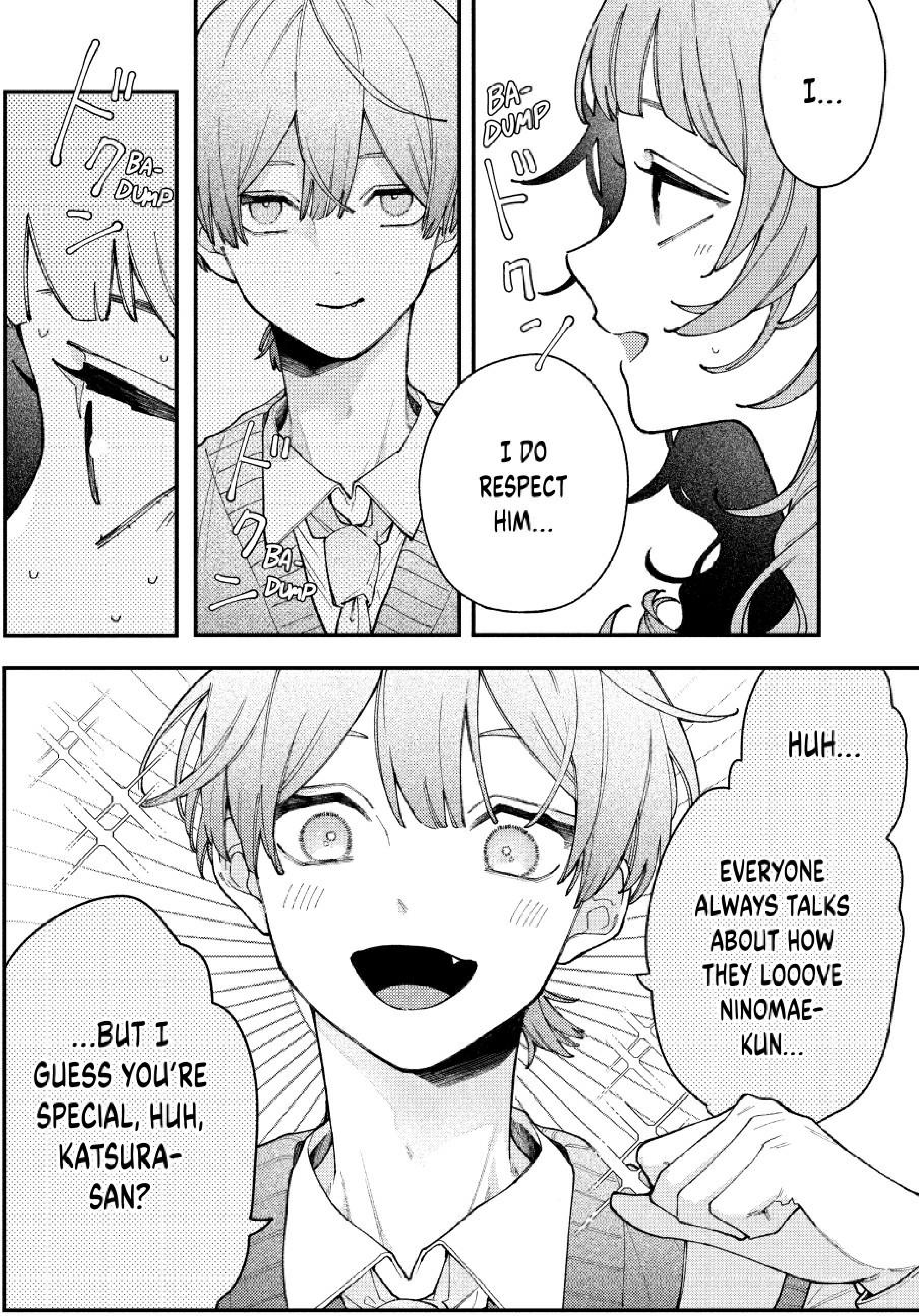


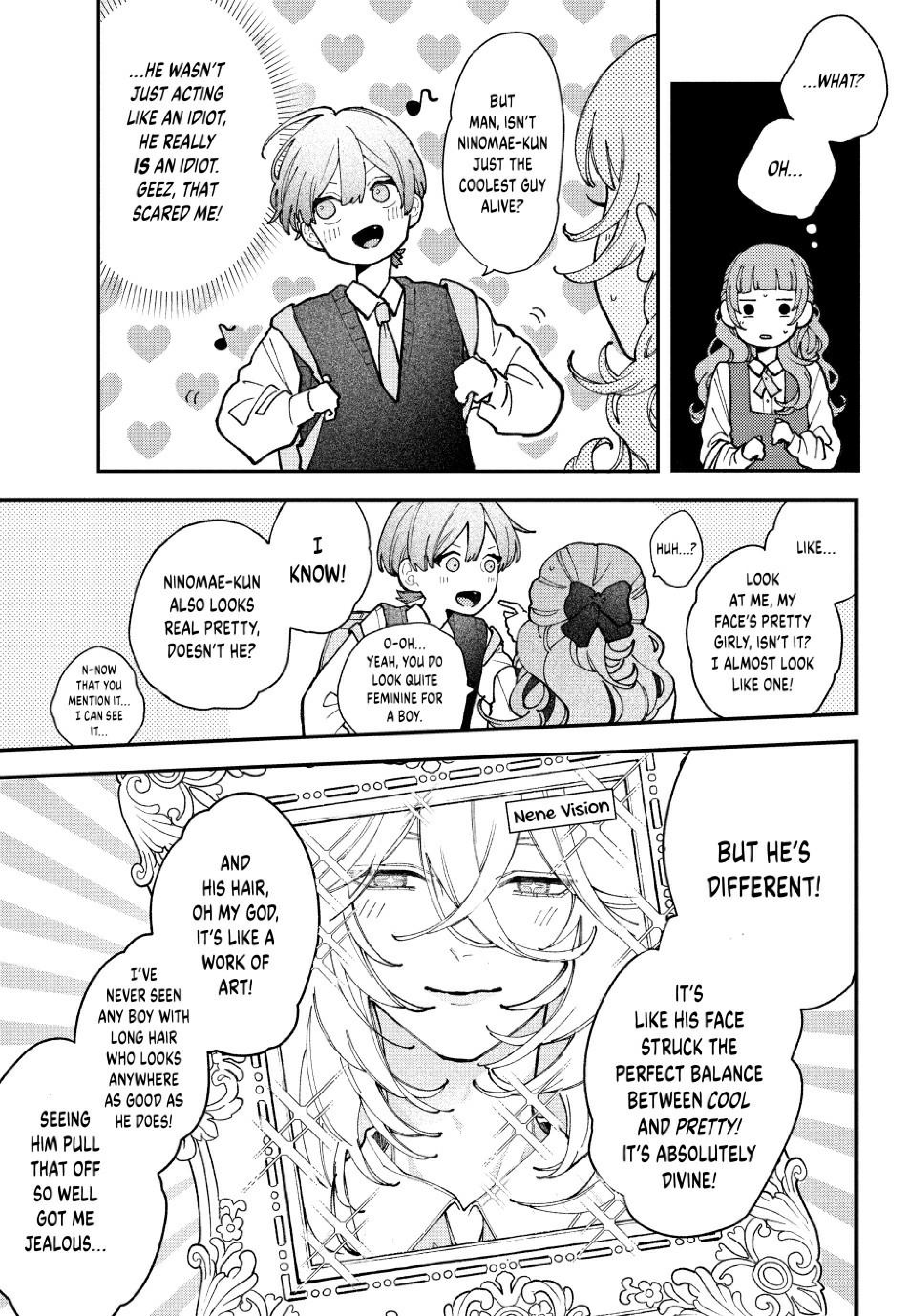

NINOMAE-KUN.
HMM?
AH, KATSURA-SAN. DID YOU NEED SOMETHING FROM ME?
N—
NOT REALLY...
I JUST WANTED TO SAY...
THANKS FOR—
ヒョコッ
PEEK
!

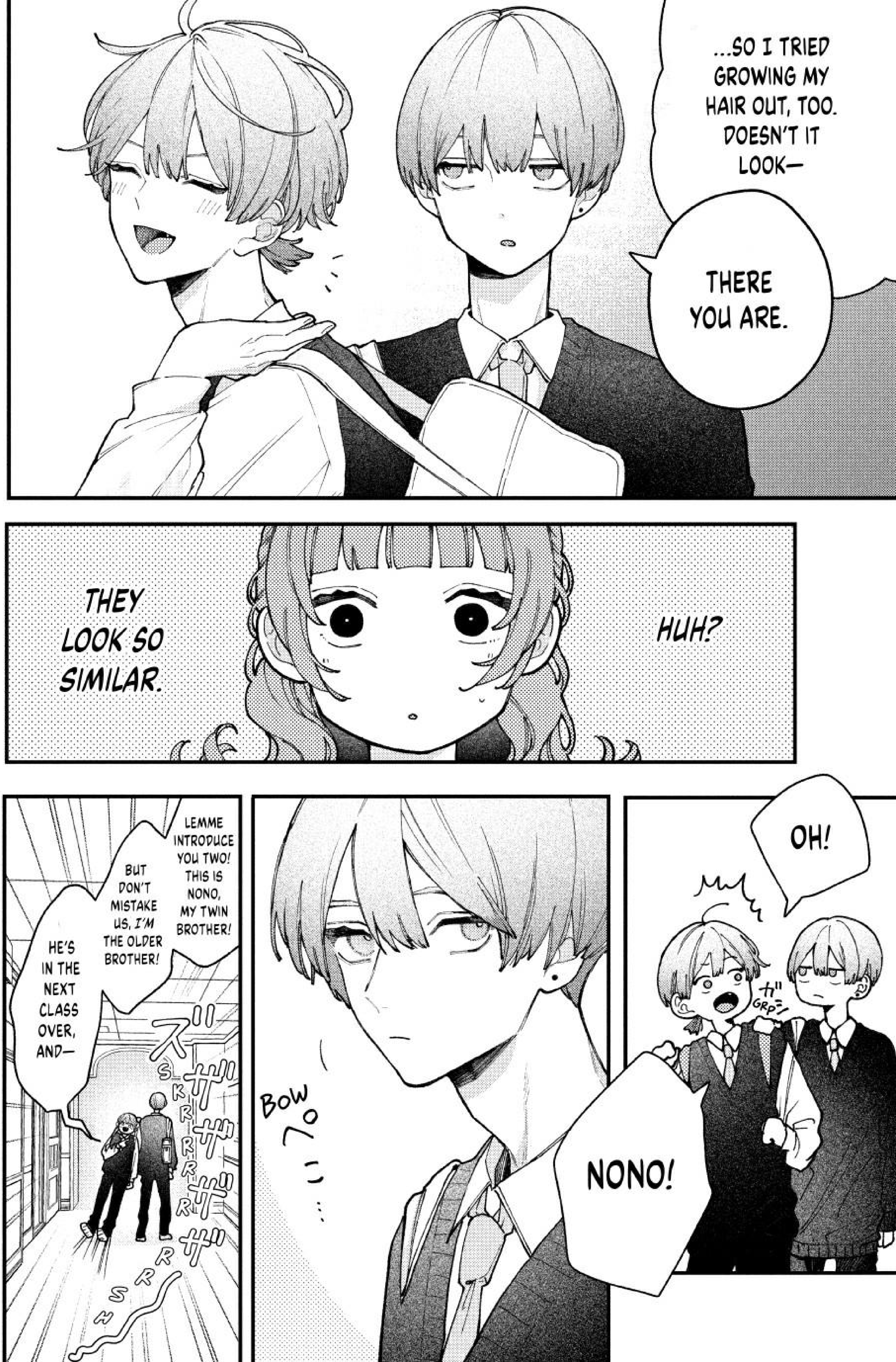

U-UMM...
HE'S IN OUR CLASS, ISN'T HE?
I THINK HE'S CALLED—
HUH?
HELLO, OTORI-KUN...
YOU'RE WAY TOO STIFF, KATSURA-SAN! WE'RE *CLASSMATES!*
CALL ME BY MY FIRST NAME! IT'S *NENE-KUN!*
HUH?
I MEAN, YOU'RE CALLING ME WITH MY LAST NAME, TOO, SO...
BUT, WOW...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'M SEEING YOU UP CLOSE.
YOU'RE SOOOO PRETTY, KATSURA-SAN!

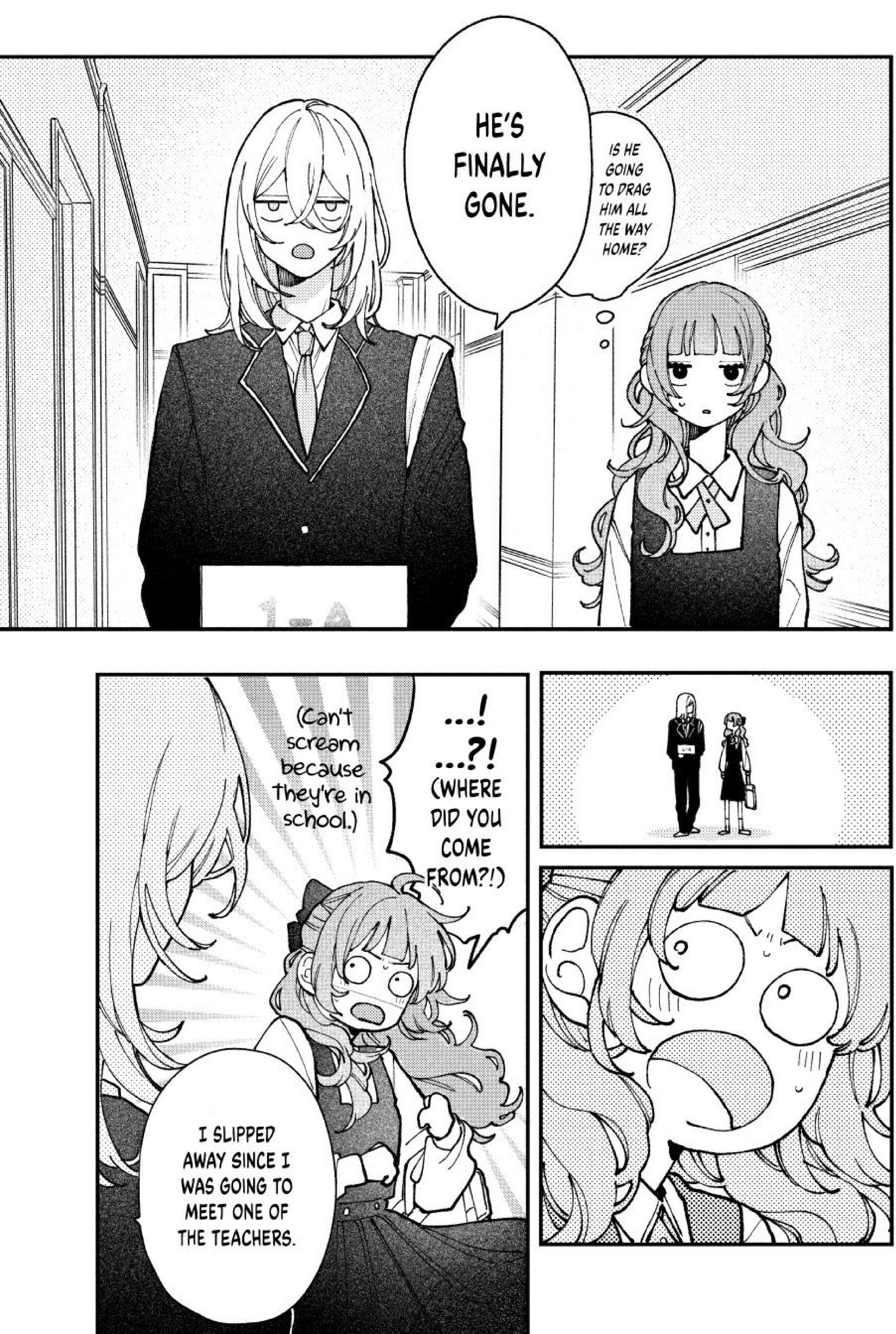

YOUR EYELASHES FRAME YOUR EYES LIKE ART, AND YOUR SKIN'S SILKY SMOOTH!
AND YOUR PETITE FACE ONLY MAKES YOUR PERFECT FEATURES STAND OUT EVEN MORE!
ERR...
NO WONDER PEOPLE CALL YOU OUR MADONNA! BY THE WAY, HOW POPULAR ARE YOU, REALLY?
HOW MANY GUYS HAVE CONFESSED TO YOU SINCE COMING HERE? TELL ME!
THANK YOU?
AREN'T YOU DYING TO KNOW THAT, TOO...
...NINOMAE-KUN?
WAIT!
WAIT, WHAT?
WHERE'D HE GO?
HUH?
DANG IT! I CAN'T BELIEVE HE ACTUALLY LEFT ME HERE!
WHERE'D HE GO?
きょろ…
GLANCE
OH YEAH, I'VE BEEN WONDERING...

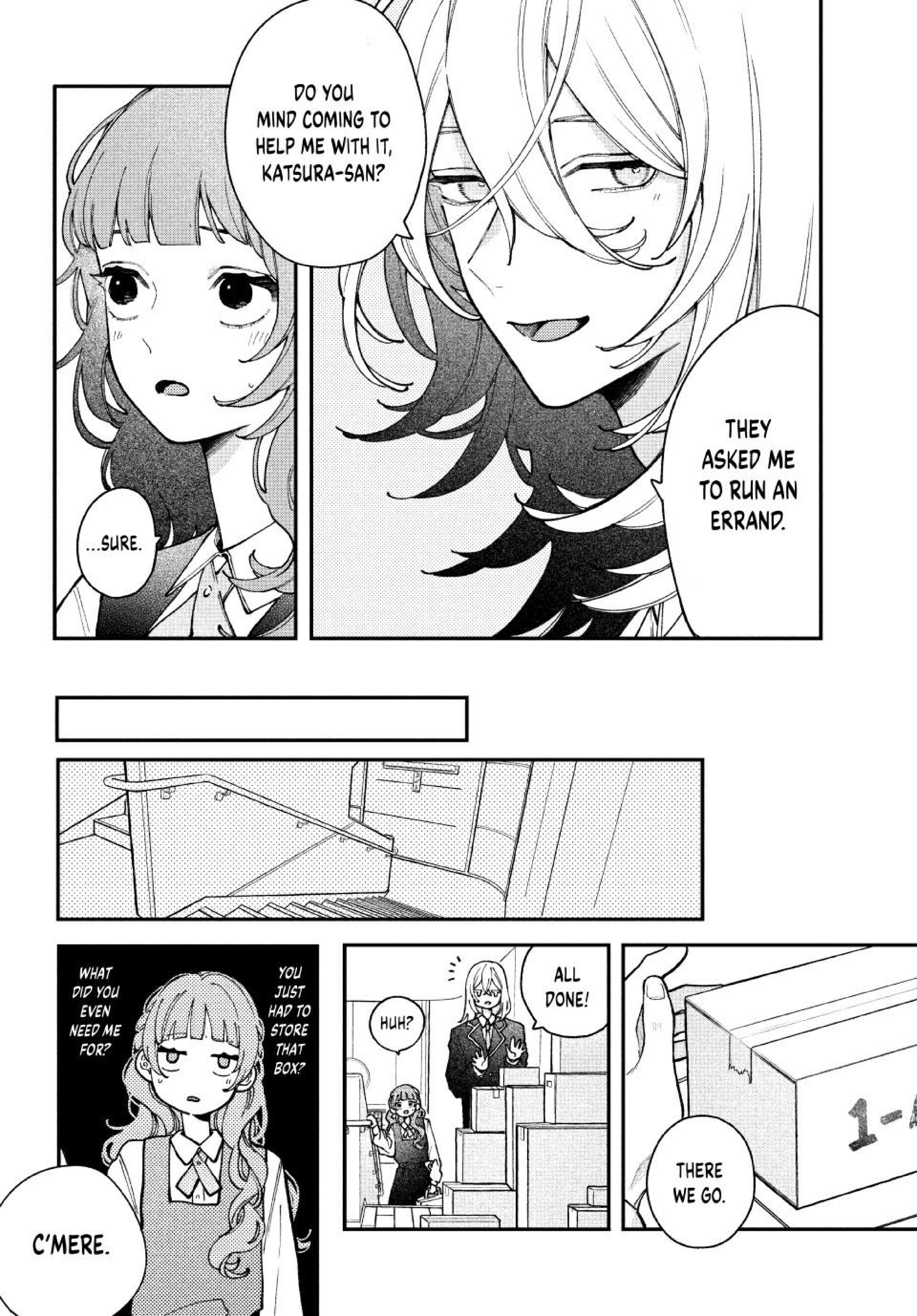

KATSURA-SAN...
...ARE YOU IN LOVE WITH NINOMAE-KUN?
...WHAT?
WAIT, HUH?
WHAT BROUGHT THAT ON?
WAIT, DON'T TELL ME...
...HE ONLY ACTED LIKE AN IDIOT SO HE CAN TAKE ME OFF-GUARD WITH THIS QUESTION?

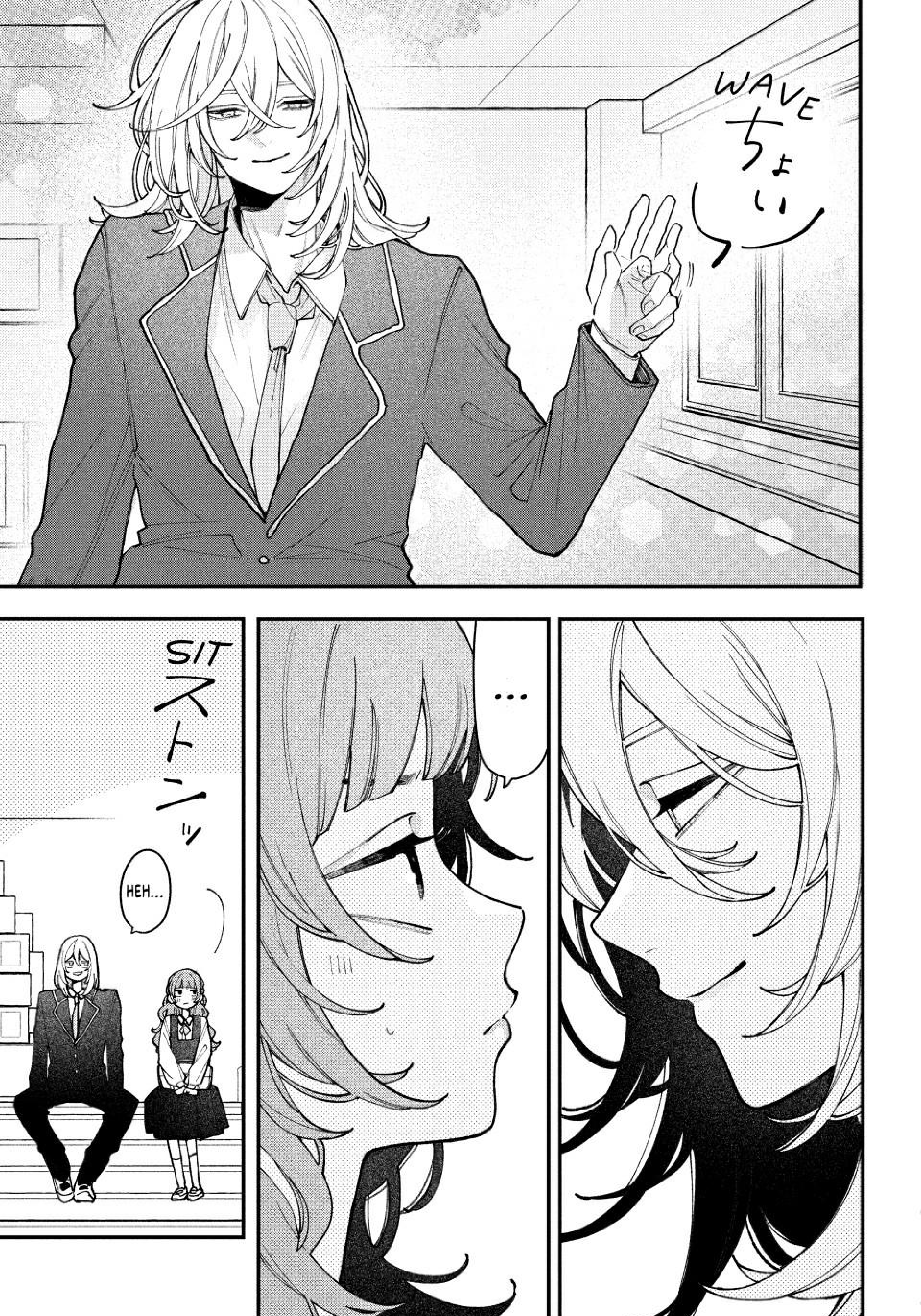

I...
BA-DUMP
ドクン
I DO RESPECT HIM...
ドクン
BA-DUMP
ドクン
BA-DUMP
HUH...
EVERYONE ALWAYS TALKS ABOUT HOW THEY LOOOVE NINOMAE-KUN...
...BUT I GUESS YOU'RE SPECIAL, HUH, KATSURA-SAN?

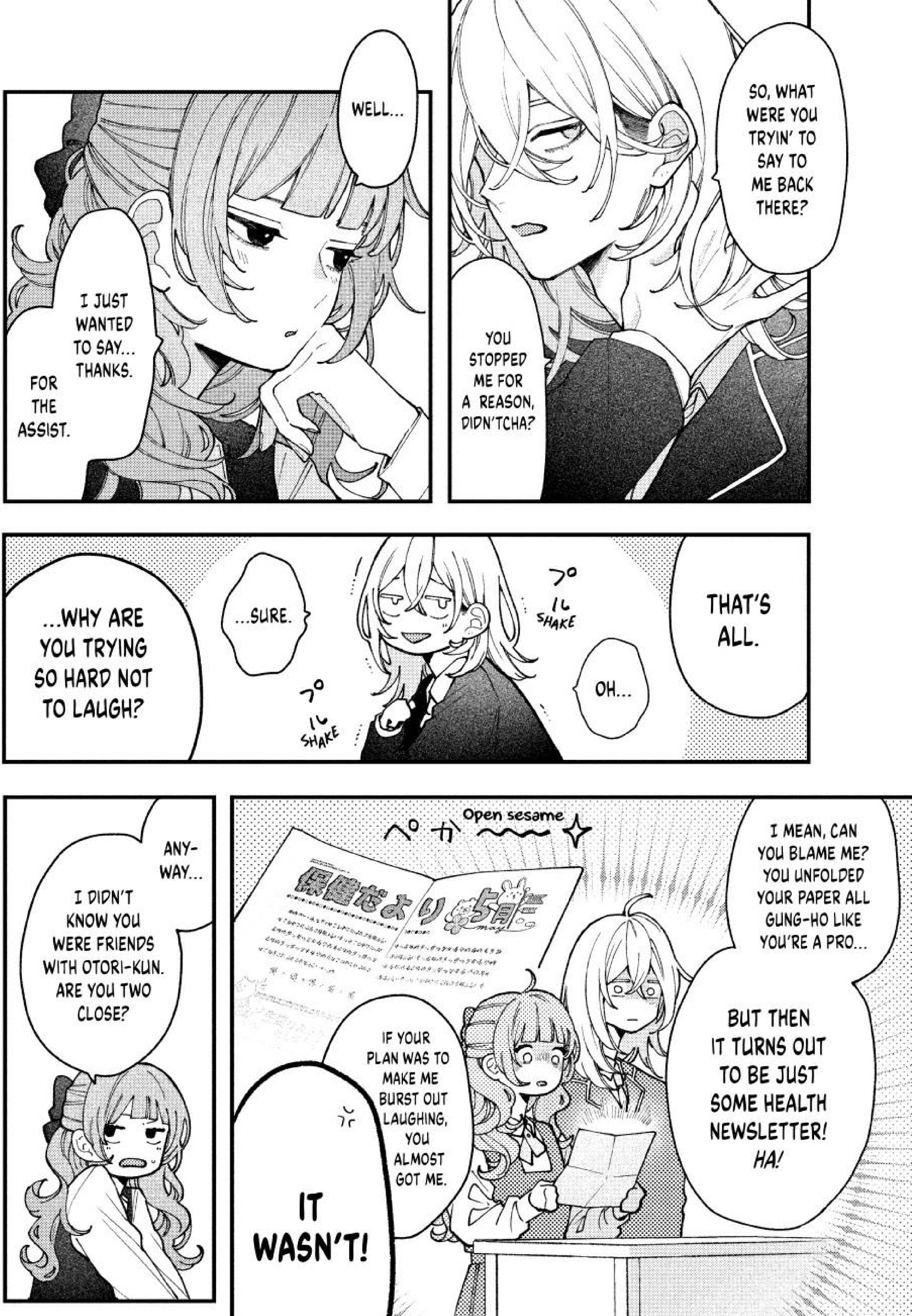

...WHAT?
OH...
BUT MAN, ISN'T NINOMAE-KUN JUST THE COOLEST GUY ALIVE?
...HE WASN'T JUST ACTING LIKE AN IDIOT, HE REALLY **IS** AN IDIOT. GEEZ, THAT SCARED ME!
LIKE...
LOOK AT ME, MY FACE'S PRETTY GIRLY, ISN'T IT? I ALMOST LOOK LIKE ONE!
HUH...?
O-OH... YEAH, YOU DO LOOK QUITE FEMININE FOR A BOY.
I KNOW!
NINOMAE-KUN ALSO LOOKS REAL PRETTY, DOESN'T HE?
N-NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT... I CAN SEE IT...
Nene Vision
BUT HE'S DIFFERENT!
IT'S LIKE HIS FACE STRUCK THE PERFECT BALANCE BETWEEN *COOL* AND *PRETTY*! IT'S ABSOLUTELY DIVINE!
AND HIS HAIR, OH MY GOD, IT'S LIKE A WORK OF ART!
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY BOY WITH LONG HAIR WHO LOOKS ANYWHERE AS GOOD AS HE DOES!
SEEING HIM PULL THAT OFF SO WELL GOT ME JEALOUS...

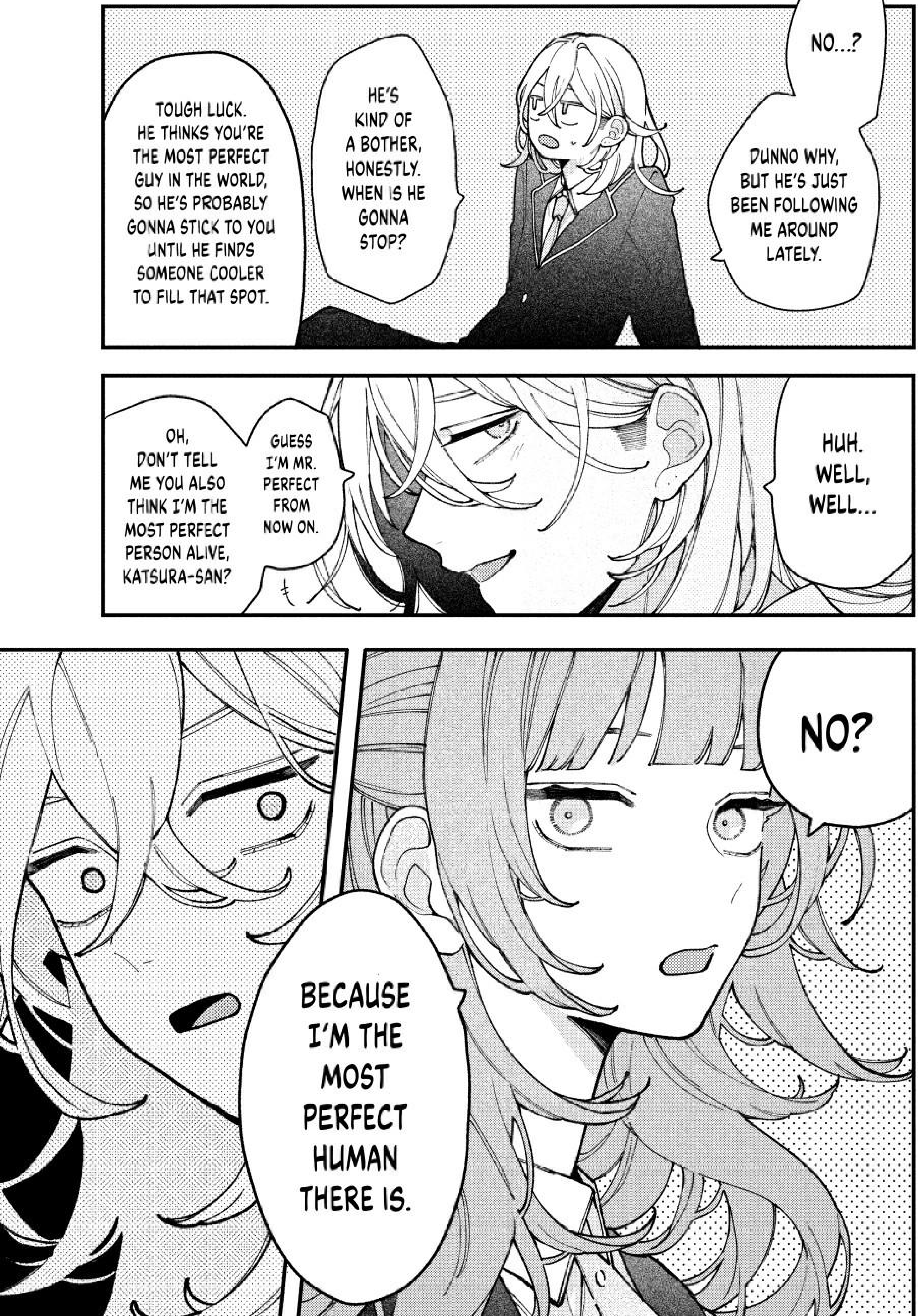

...SO I TRIED GROWING MY HAIR OUT, TOO. DOESN'T IT LOOK—
THERE YOU ARE.
HUH?
THEY LOOK SO SIMILAR.
OH!
ガ GRP
NONO!
BOW へこ…
LEMME INTRODUCE YOU TWO! THIS IS NONO, MY TWIN BROTHER!
BUT DON'T MISTAKE US, I'M THE OLDER BROTHER!
HE'S IN THE NEXT CLASS OVER, AND—
ズザザザザ SKRRRRR SHH

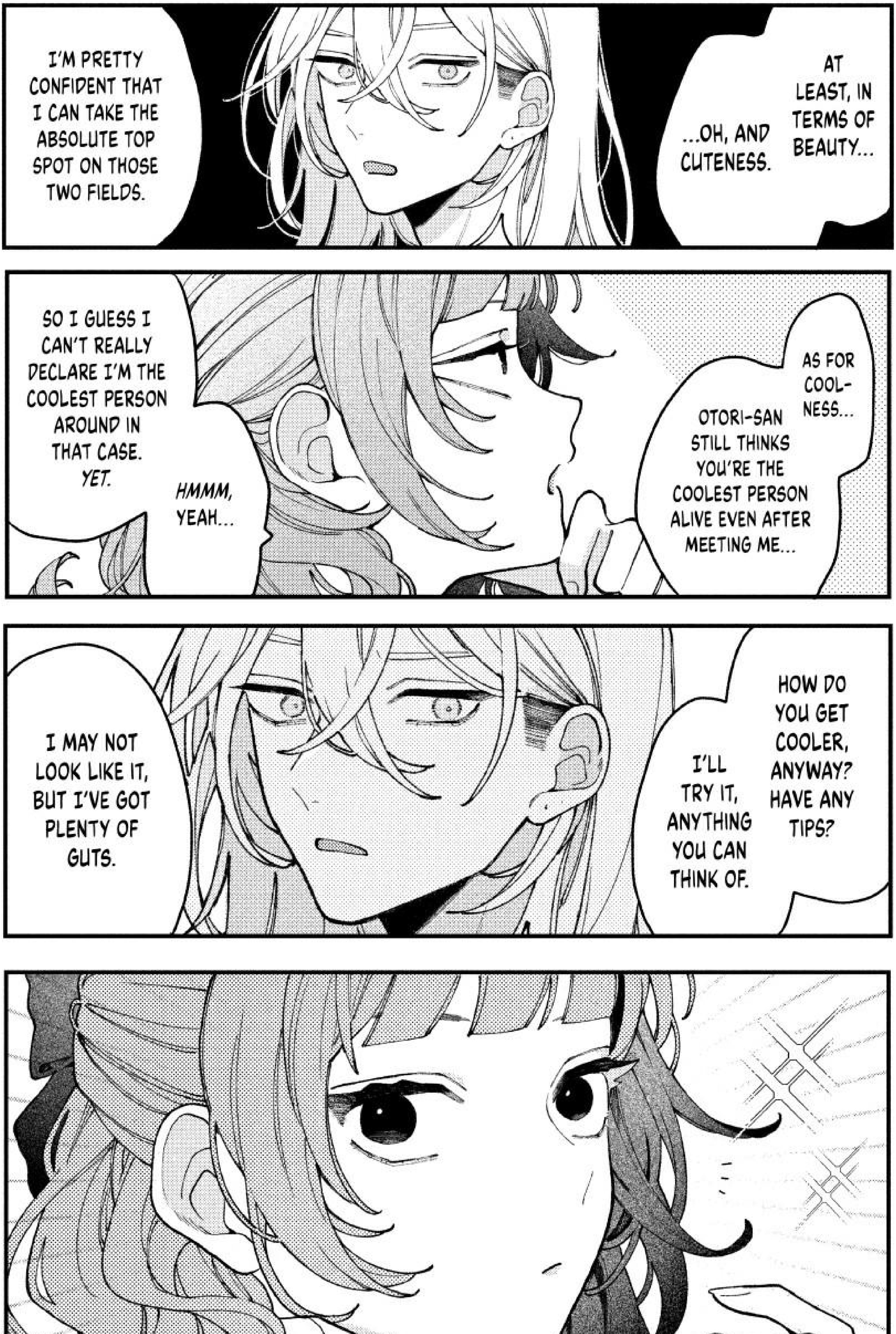

HE'S FINALLY GONE.
IS HE GOING TO DRAG HIM ALL THE WAY HOME?
1-A
...! ...?! (WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?!)
(Can't scream because they're in school.)
I SLIPPED AWAY SINCE I WAS GOING TO MEET ONE OF THE TEACHERS.

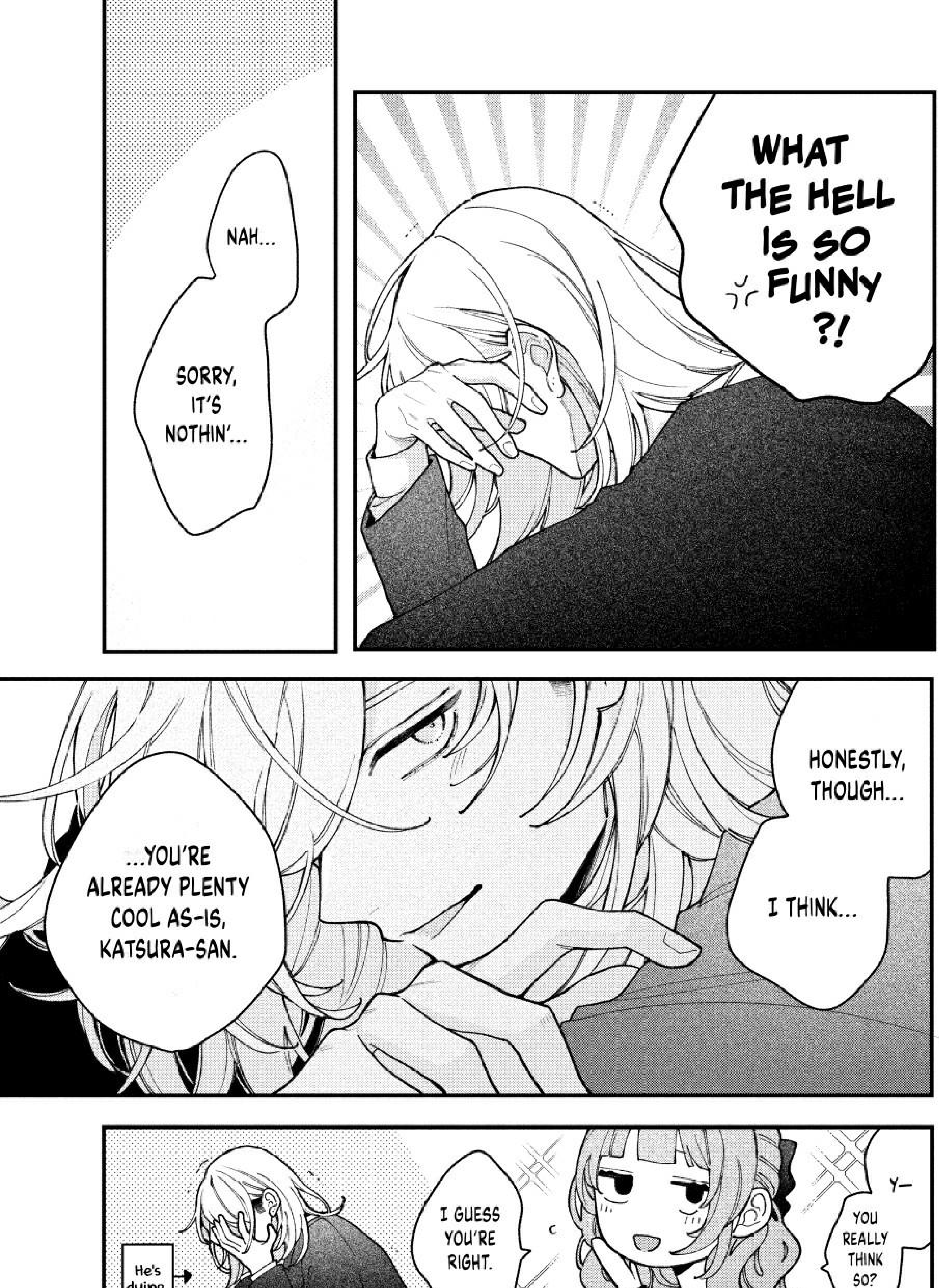

THEY ASKED ME TO RUN AN ERRAND.
DO YOU MIND COMING TO HELP ME WITH IT, KATSURA-SAN?
...SURE.
THERE WE GO.
ALL DONE!
HUH?
YOU JUST HAD TO STORE THAT BOX?
WHAT DID YOU EVEN NEED ME FOR?
C'MERE.

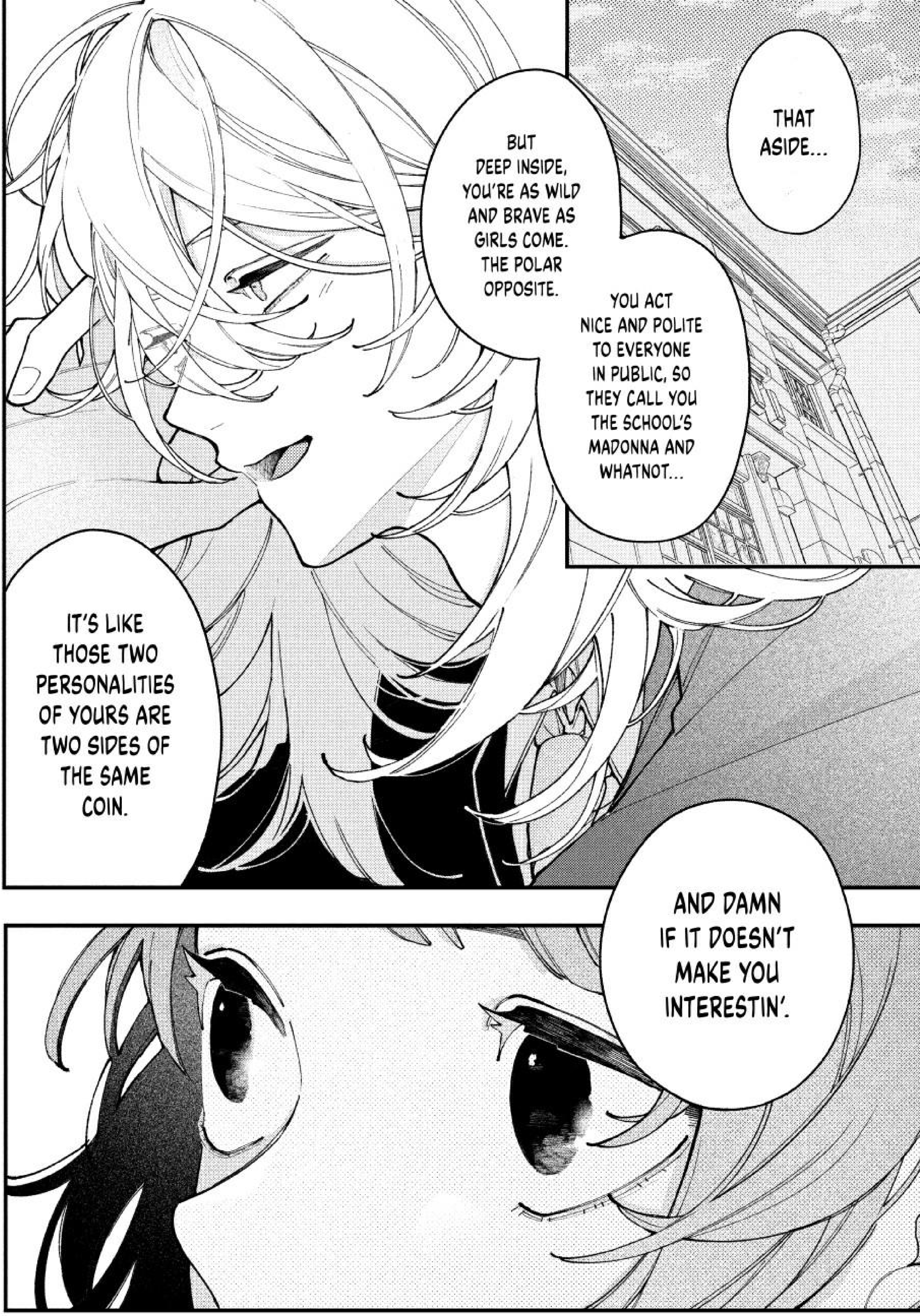

WAVE
ちょい
...
SIT
ストンッ
HEH...

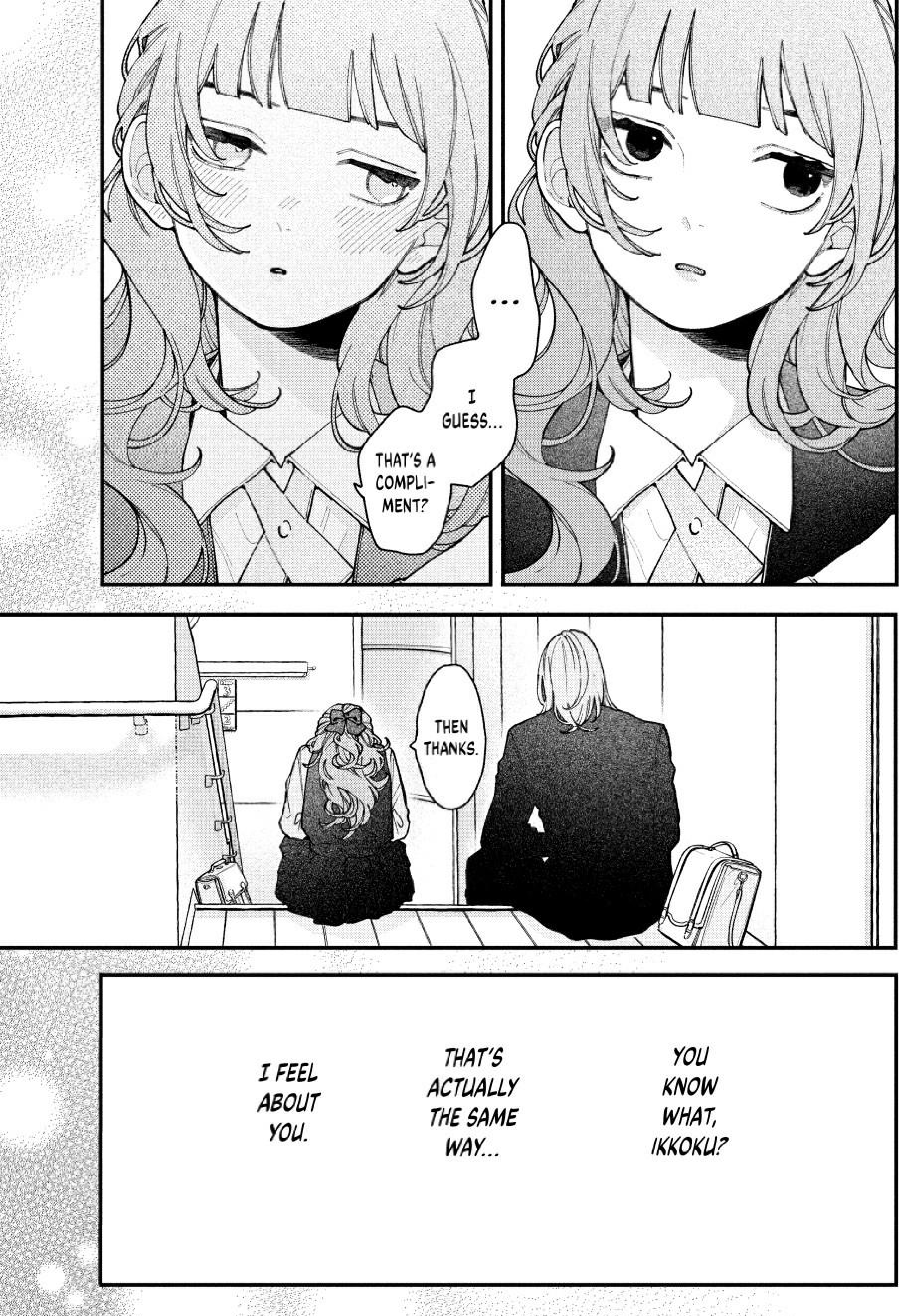

SO, WHAT WERE YOU TRYIN' TO SAY TO ME BACK THERE?
YOU STOPPED ME FOR A REASON, DIDN'TCHA?
WELL...
I JUST WANTED TO SAY... THANKS.
FOR THE ASSIST.
THAT'S ALL.
OH...
プル SHAKE
プル SHAKE
...SURE.
...WHY ARE YOU TRYING SO HARD NOT TO LAUGH?
I MEAN, CAN YOU BLAME ME? YOU UNFOLDED YOUR PAPER ALL GUNG-HO LIKE YOU'RE A PRO...
BUT THEN IT TURNS OUT TO BE JUST SOME HEALTH NEWSLETTER! HA!
ペカ Open sesame
保健だより 5月 may
IF YOUR PLAN WAS TO MAKE ME BURST OUT LAUGHING, YOU ALMOST GOT ME.
IT WASN'T!
ANY-WAY... I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE FRIENDS WITH OTORI-KUN. ARE YOU TWO CLOSE?

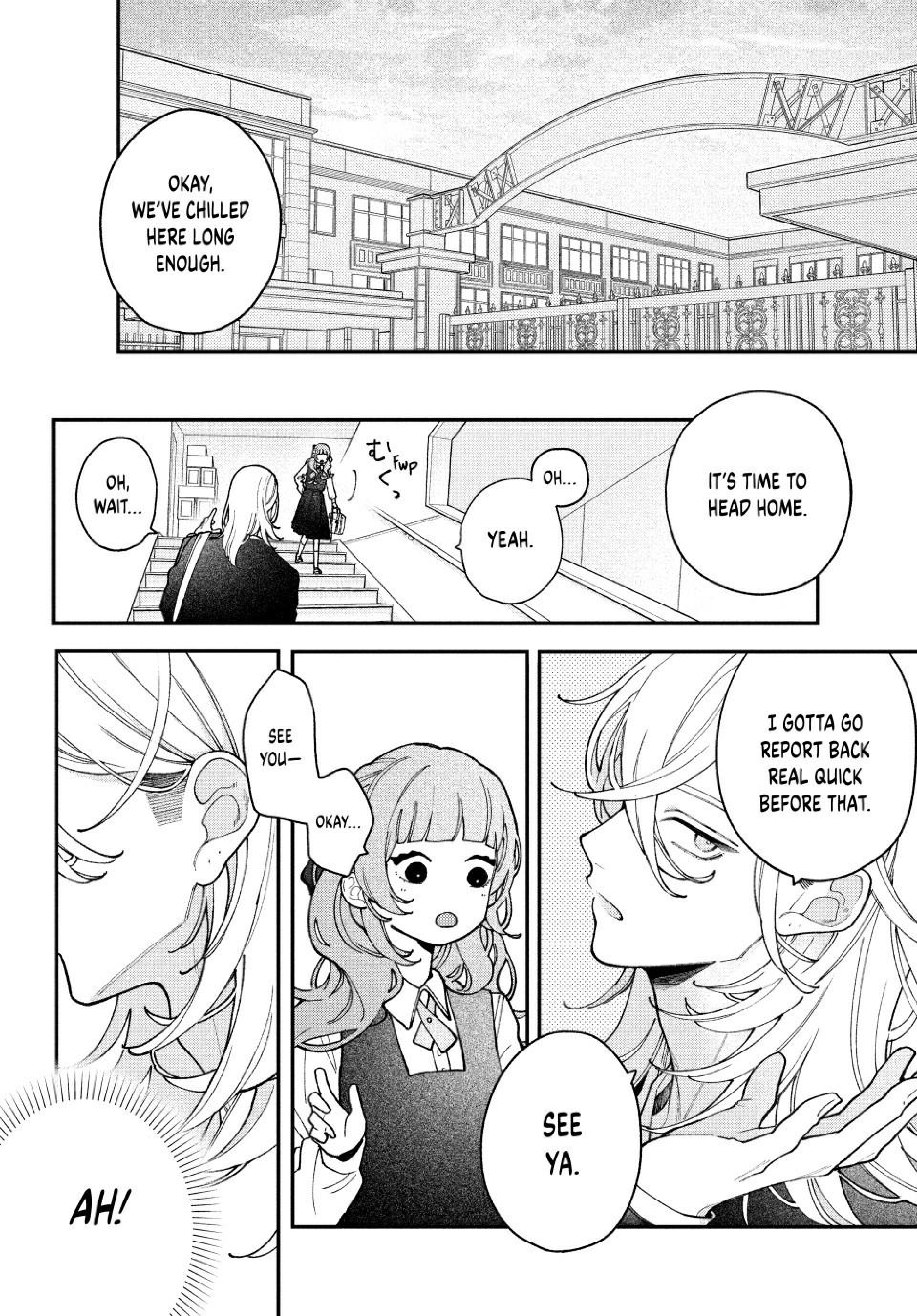

NO...?
DUNNO WHY, BUT HE'S JUST BEEN FOLLOWING ME AROUND LATELY.
HE'S KIND OF A BOTHER, HONESTLY. WHEN IS HE GONNA STOP?
TOUGH LUCK. HE THINKS YOU'RE THE MOST PERFECT GUY IN THE WORLD, SO HE'S PROBABLY GONNA STICK TO YOU UNTIL HE FINDS SOMEONE COOLER TO FILL THAT SPOT.
HUH. WELL, WELL...
GUESS I'M MR. PERFECT FROM NOW ON.
OH, DON'T TELL ME YOU ALSO THINK I'M THE MOST PERFECT PERSON ALIVE, KATSURA-SAN?
NO?
BECAUSE I'M THE MOST PERFECT HUMAN THERE IS.

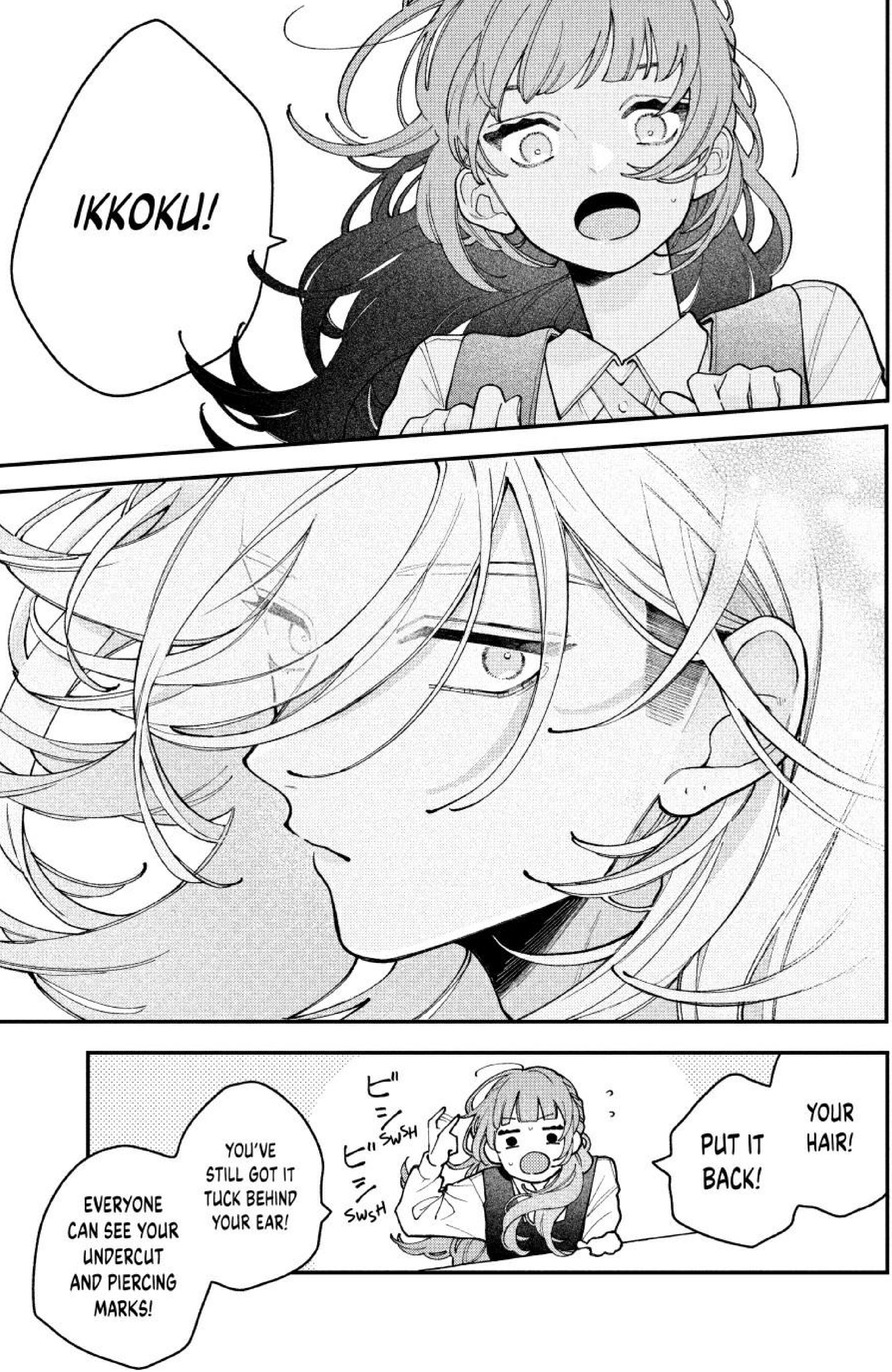

AT LEAST, IN TERMS OF BEAUTY...
...OH, AND CUTENESS.
I'M PRETTY CONFIDENT THAT I CAN TAKE THE ABSOLUTE TOP SPOT ON THOSE TWO FIELDS.
AS FOR COOL-NESS...
OTORI-SAN STILL THINKS YOU'RE THE COOLEST PERSON ALIVE EVEN AFTER MEETING ME...
HMMM, YEAH...
SO I GUESS I CAN'T REALLY DECLARE I'M THE COOLEST PERSON AROUND IN THAT CASE. *YET.*
HOW DO YOU GET COOLER, ANYWAY? HAVE ANY TIPS?
I'LL TRY IT, ANYTHING YOU CAN THINK OF.
I MAY NOT LOOK LIKE IT, BUT I'VE GOT PLENTY OF GUTS.

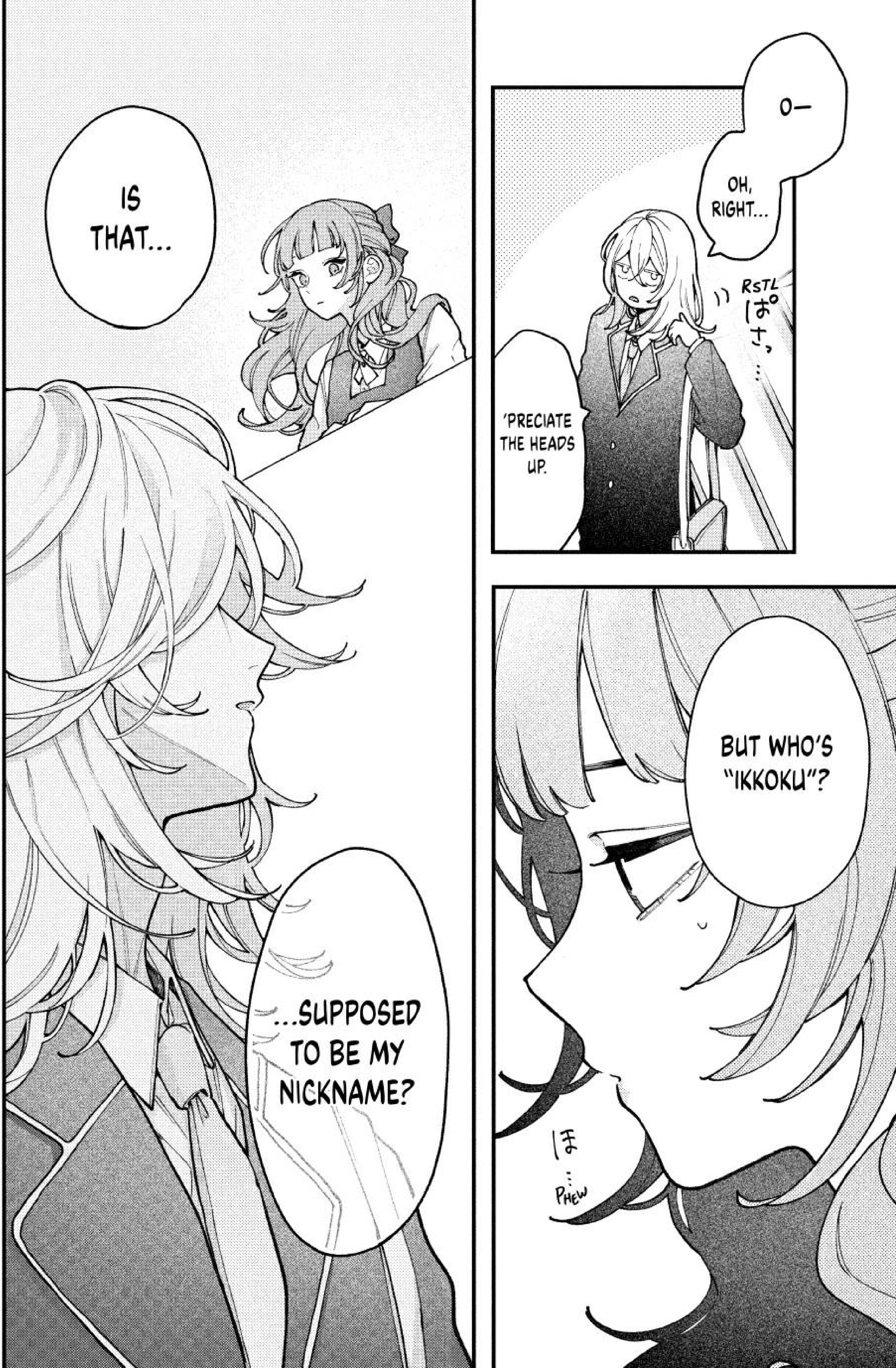

WHAT THE HELL IS SO FUNNY?!
NAH...
SORRY, IT'S NOTHIN'...
HONESTLY, THOUGH...
I THINK...
...YOU'RE ALREADY PLENTY COOL AS-IS, KATSURA-SAN.
Y— YOU REALLY THINK SO?
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
He's dying.

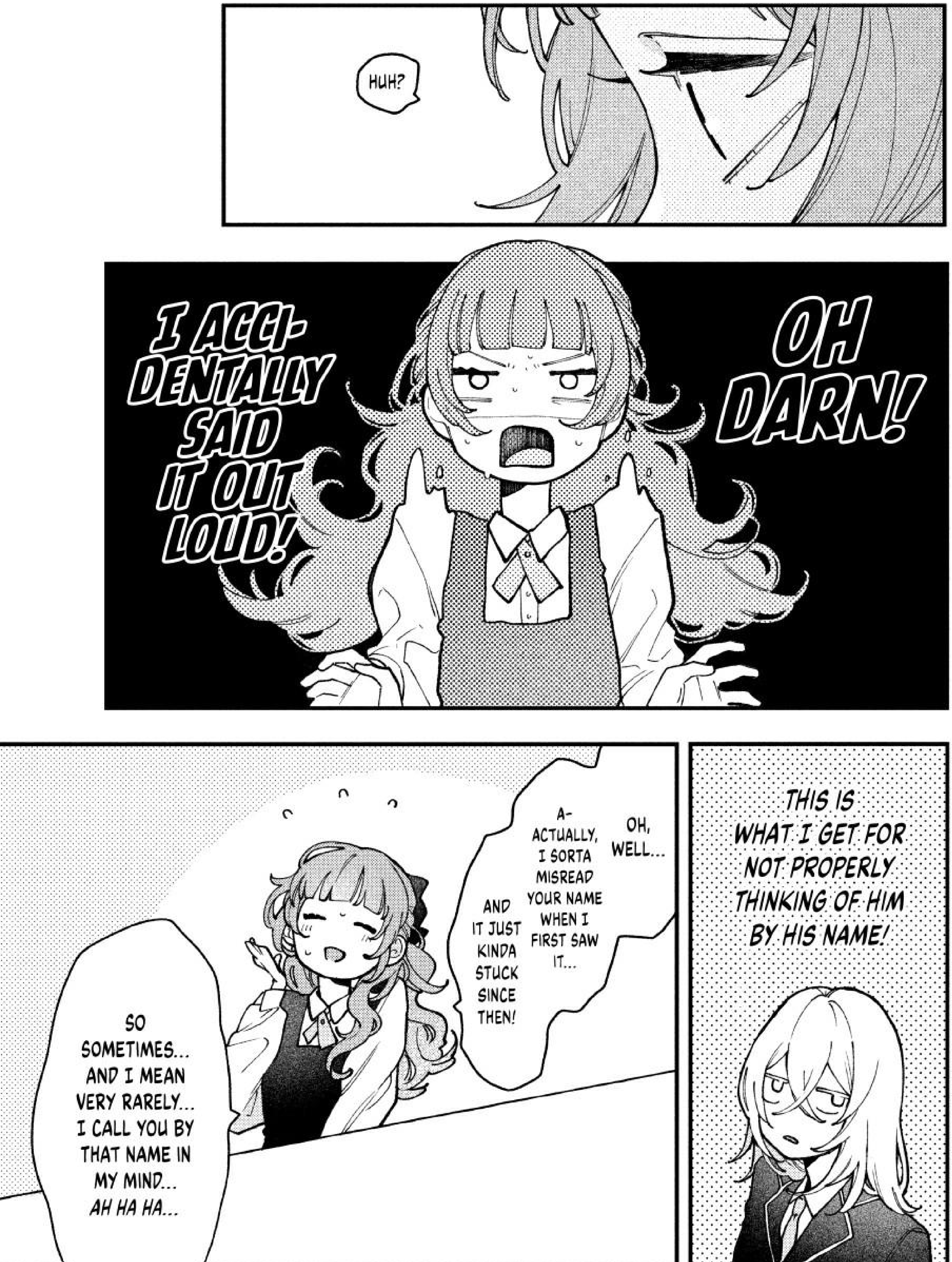

THAT ASIDE...
YOU ACT NICE AND POLITE TO EVERYONE IN PUBLIC, SO THEY CALL YOU THE SCHOOL'S MADONNA AND WHATNOT...
BUT DEEP INSIDE, YOU'RE AS WILD AND BRAVE AS GIRLS COME. THE POLAR OPPOSITE.
IT'S LIKE THOSE TWO PERSONALITIES OF YOURS ARE TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN.
AND DAMN IF IT DOESN'T MAKE YOU INTERESTIN'.

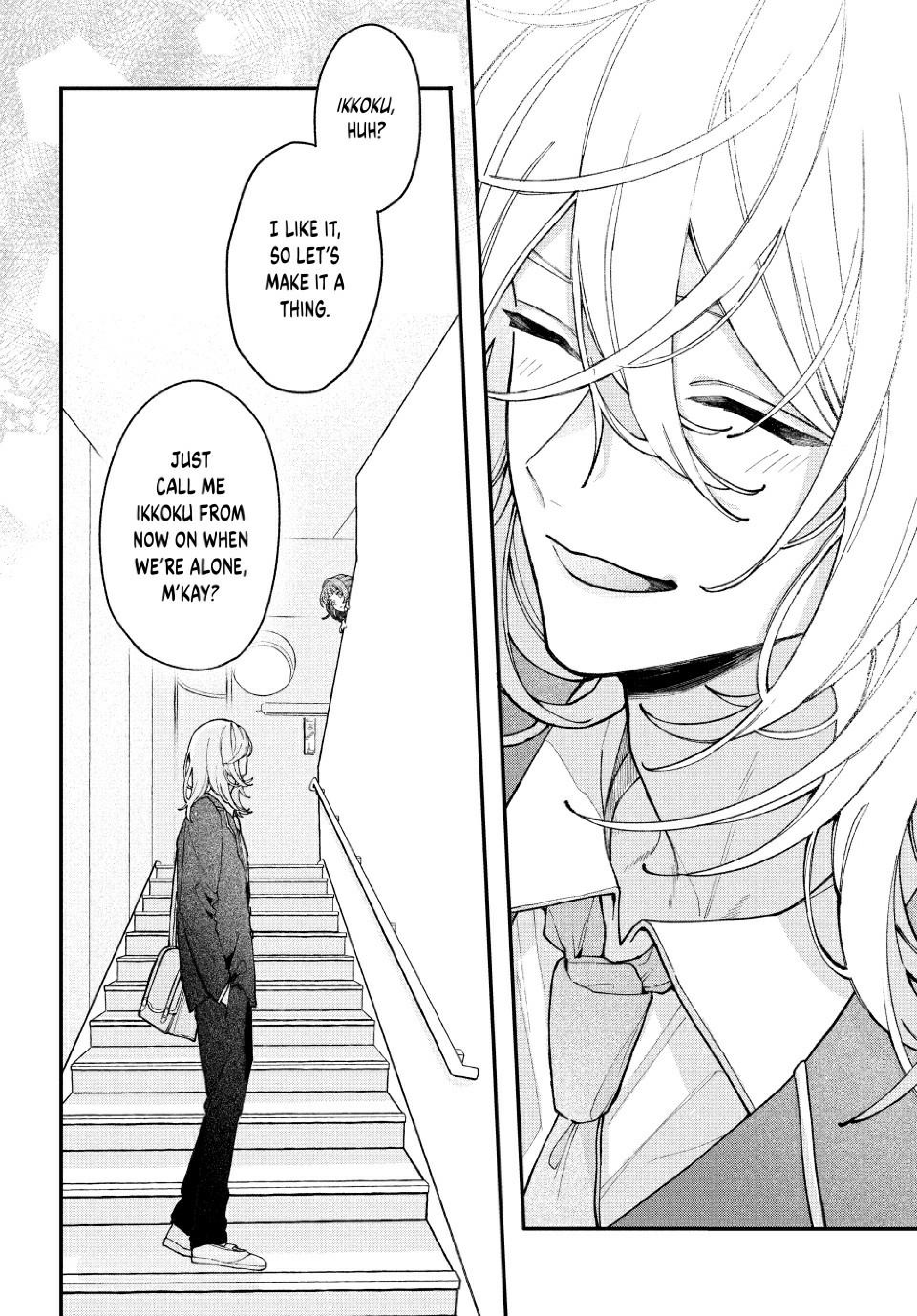

…
I GUESS… THAT'S A COMPLIMENT?
THEN THANKS.
YOU KNOW WHAT, IKKOKU?
THAT'S ACTUALLY THE SAME WAY…
I FEEL ABOUT YOU.

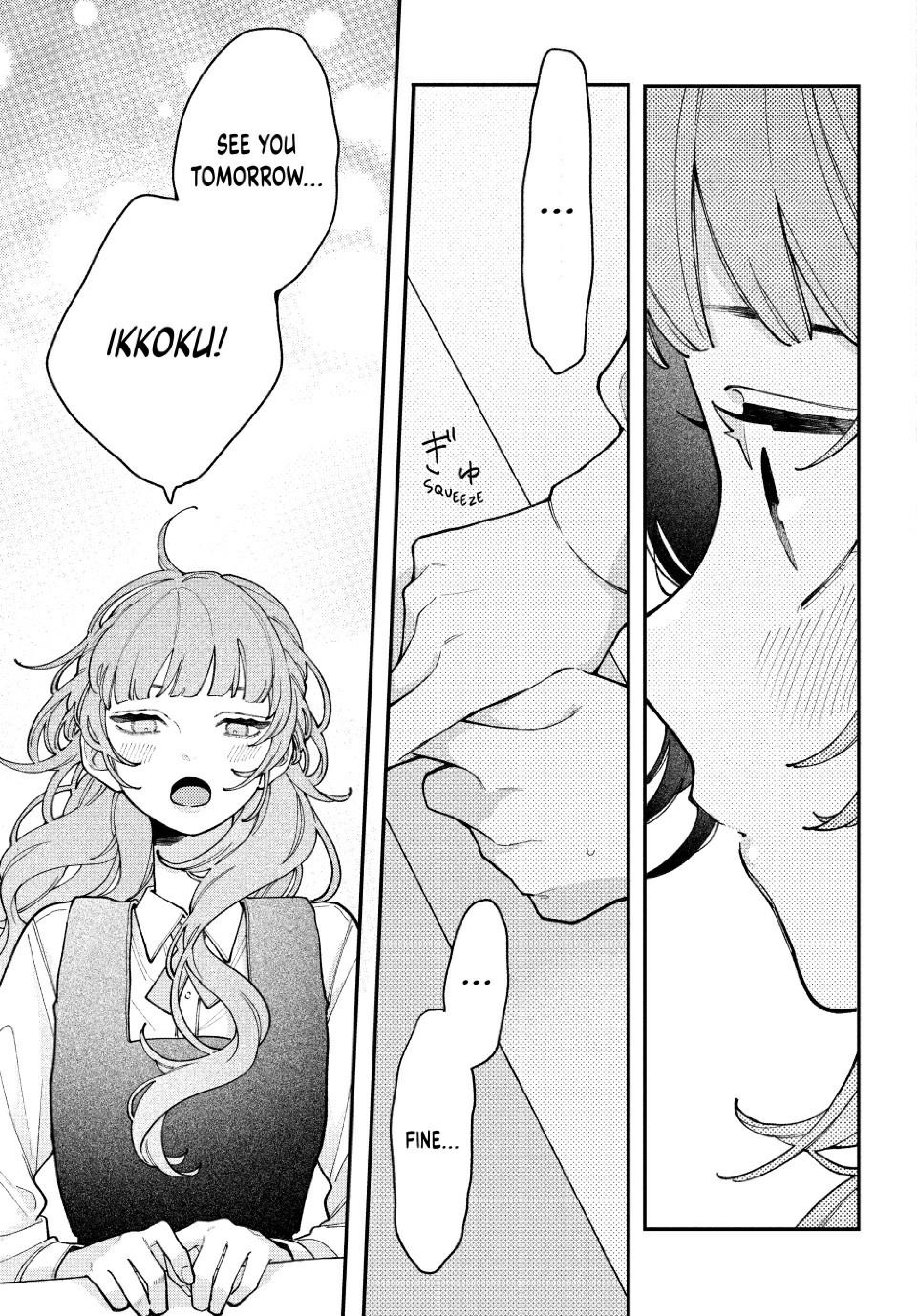

OKAY, WE'VE CHILLED HERE LONG ENOUGH.
IT'S TIME TO HEAD HOME.
OH... YEAH.
むく Fwp
OH, WAIT...
I GOTTA GO REPORT BACK REAL QUICK BEFORE THAT.
SEE YA.
SEE YOU—
OKAY...
AH!

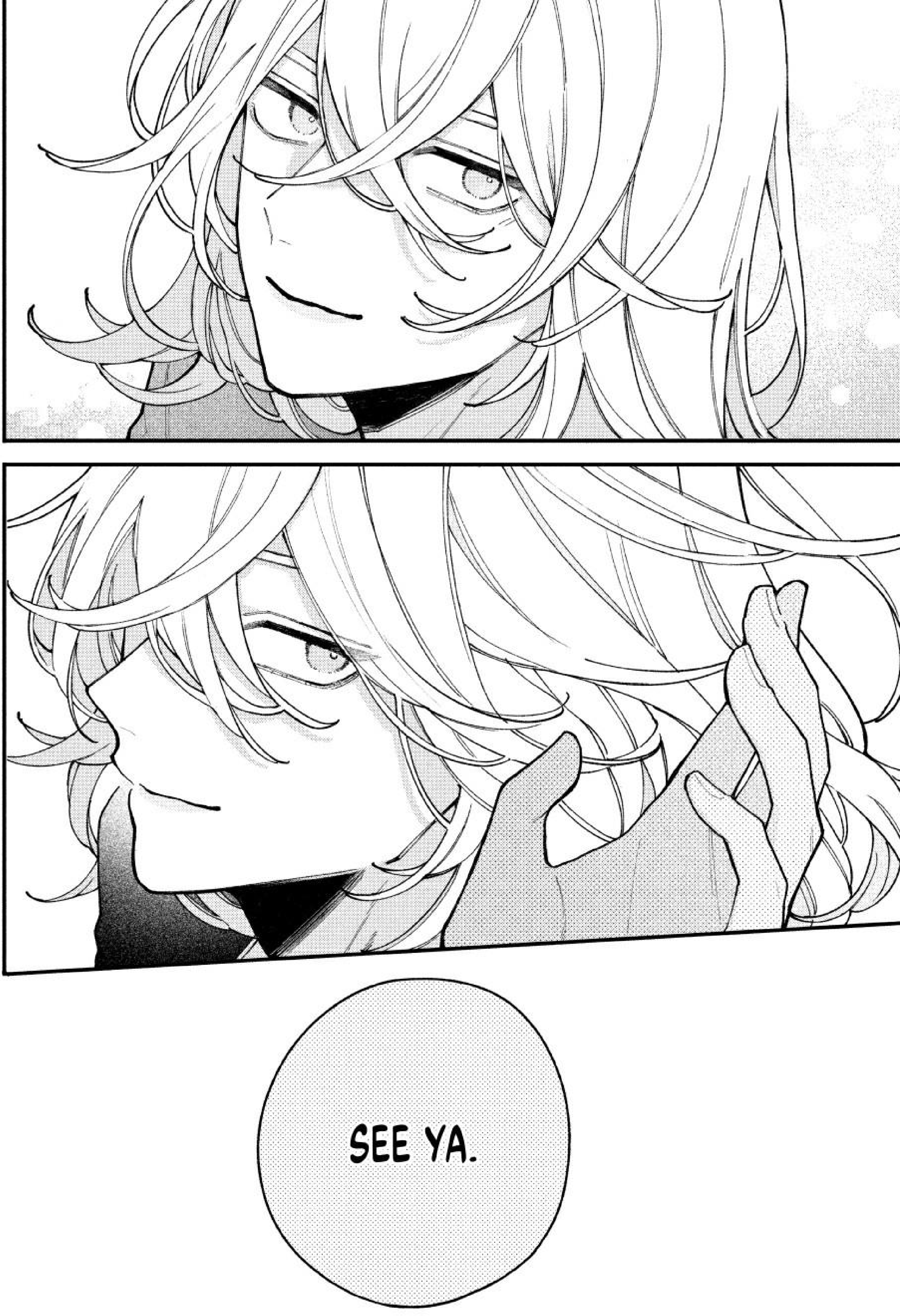

IKKOKU!
YOUR HAIR!
PUT IT BACK!
ビシ SWSH
ビシ SWSH
YOU'VE STILL GOT IT TUCK BEHIND YOUR EAR!
EVERYONE CAN SEE YOUR UNDERCUT AND PIERCING MARKS!

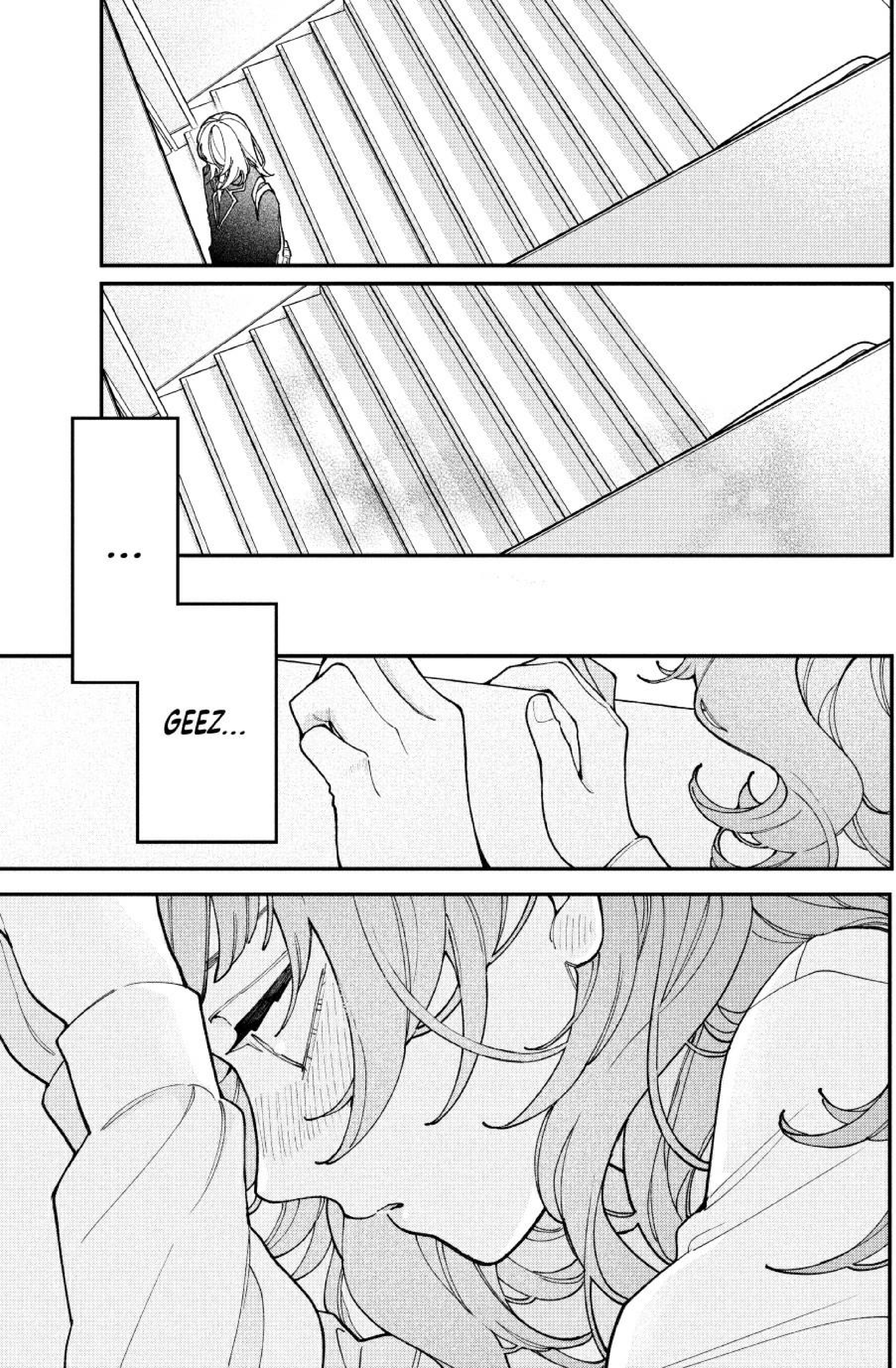

O—
Oh, right...
ぱさっ…
RSTL
'Preciate the heads up.
But who's "Ikkoku"?
ほ…
Phew
Is that...
...supposed to be my nickname?

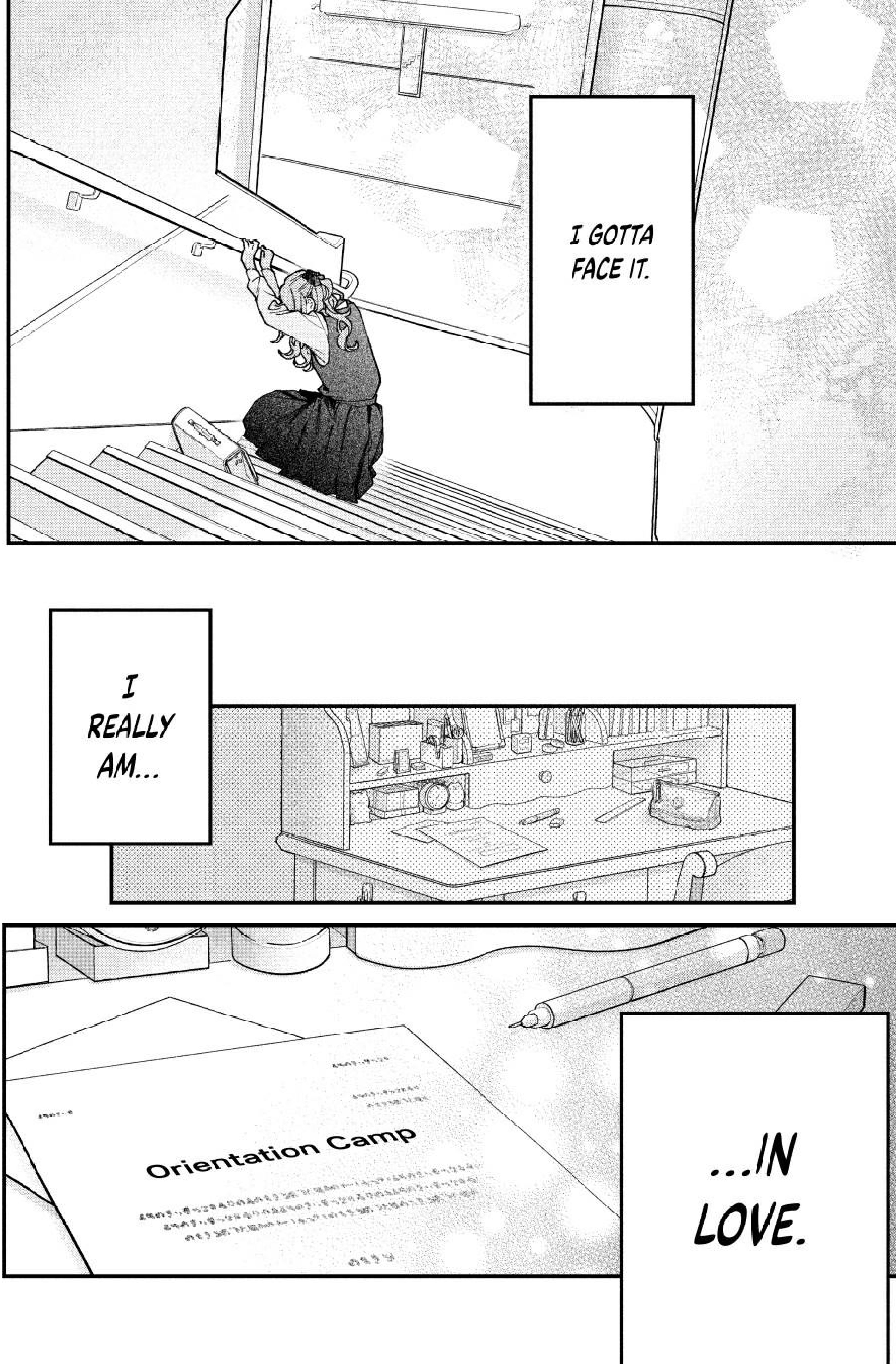

HUH?
OH DARN!
I ACCIDENTALLY SAID IT OUT LOUD!
THIS IS WHAT I GET FOR NOT PROPERLY THINKING OF HIM BY HIS NAME!
OH, WELL...
A- ACTUALLY, I SORTA MISREAD YOUR NAME WHEN I FIRST SAW IT...
AND IT JUST KINDA STUCK SINCE THEN!
SO SOMETIMES... AND I MEAN VERY RARELY... I CALL YOU BY THAT NAME IN MY MIND... *AH HA HA...*


Ikkoku, huh?
I like it, so let's make it a thing.
Just call me Ikkoku from now on when we're alone, m'kay?


SEE YOU TOMORROW...
IKKOKU!
...
ぎゅ
SQUEEZE
...
FINE...


SEE YA.


...
GEEZ...


I GOTTA FACE IT.
I REALLY AM...
Orientation Camp
...IN LOVE.